

Amal, Palestinians enter truce

BEIRUT (R) — Palestinian and Shi'ite officials said on Wednesday they had agreed on a truce to halt battles around Palestinian camps in South Lebanon and more talks would be held on a comprehensive peace accord. "A ceasefire was agreed in the first phase but there will be further meetings," Assem Qanso, leader of Lebanon's Baath Party, told reporters. He was speaking after talks between officials of pro-Syrian political parties and the warring Shi'ite Amal militia and Palestinian groups on a Syrian-sponsored peace pact. Political sources told Reuters the two sides still disagreed about the withdrawal of around 3,000 Palestinians from hilltops east of the southern port of Sidon. Syria sponsored the peace pact last month to end the "camps war" in which 2,500 people have been killed in the past three years. But fighting broke out east of Sidon on Friday, shattering hopes of its implementation. The pact provided for the withdrawal of Palestinian fighters from areas they captured last November and an end to Amal sieges of Palestinian camps in Beirut and the south. The latest fighting erupted when Palestinians took control of two hilltop villages overlooking 'Ain Al Hilweh camp.

Jordan Times

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Tunisia to open consulate in Libya

TUNIS (AP) — Tunisia is reestablishing diplomatic relations with Libya at the consular level, two years after breaking ties following threats from Tripoli and the expulsion of thousands of Tunisian workers, the official TAP news agency announced Wednesday. President Habib Bourguiba appointed Mohammed Salah Al Ouini consul general to Tripoli, TAP reported. It said the decision culminates talks between the two countries during which both sides "expressed the wish to develop relations on a solid and clear basis." Tunisia broke relations with Libya in September 1985 after Tripoli expelled without explanation 32,000 Tunisian workers, a move which led to friction culminating in a massing of Libyan troops on the Tunisian border. The two countries, helped by Algerian mediation, recently agreed to a plan to compensate the workers. The warming of relations between the two neighbours coincides with reports that Libya could eventually join the treaty of brotherhood and conciliation signed by Tunisia, Algeria and Mauritania. Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi announced in September that his country plans to sign a treaty of union with Algeria on Nov. 1. But Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmad Taleb Ibrahim has assured Tunisia this is not the case.

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Vorontsov holds talks in Cairo

CAIRO (AP) — The Soviet Union's first deputy foreign minister arrived Wednesday for talks that deal largely with peace efforts in the Middle East's two major conflicts, the Arab-Israeli dispute and the Iran-Iraq war. Immediately after Yuli Vorontsov arrived for a two-day official visit, he met with Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid. He was to confer Wednesday night with Osama Al Baz, top political aide to President Hosni Mubarak, and with Mr. Mubarak himself on Thursday. Mr. Abdul Meguid told reporters his hour-long meeting with Mr. Vorontsov "offered an opportunity to exchange views on an international conference on (Arab-Israeli) peace, and the situation in the Gulf."

Weizman may be invited to Moscow

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli cabinet minister Ezer Weizman will be invited to Moscow to meet top Soviet leaders, Israeli newspapers reported on Wednesday. "If I get an invitation, I'll gladly go," Mr. Weizman told Reuters. He would neither confirm nor deny the reports. The Jerusalem Post reported that Mr. Weizman might be invited for celebrations in Moscow of the 70th anniversary of the Soviet Revolution which will be attended by Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat. Israeli Communist Party members said they were exploring the possibility of a meeting between Mr. Arafat and Mr. Weizman in Moscow, the paper reported.

Iranian envoy visits Syria

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran's deputy prime minister flew to Syria Wednesday to discuss regional and international developments, Tehran's Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported. It said Ali Reza Moayyeri, deputy prime minister for political affairs, was accompanied by other Iranian officials, but did not name them. His trip came after Syria announced it would attend the emergency Arab summit meeting scheduled for Nov. 8 in Amman.

M'bow loses votes; final poll on Friday

PARIS (AP) — The race for UNESCO's new director-general tightened Wednesday with Amadou Mahtar M'bow, seeking an unprecedented third term, losing some backing in the fourth round of balloting and Spanish candidate Federico Mayor picking up some support. Neither candidate obtained a winning majority. The rules of the 50-member executive board call for a final fifth ballot runoff between the two leading candidates to be held Friday. The candidate with the most votes in the runoff will be declared the winner. In case of a tie, the board president pulls a name from a hat.

Blast rocks U.S. mission in Barcelona

BARCELONA, Spain (R) — Four people were injured in a bomb explosion at the U.S. consulate in Barcelona on Wednesday, a government spokeswoman said. The U.S. embassy in Madrid said a small device apparently exploded in the consulate's outside stairwell, causing some damage to doors. Police put the number of injured at between four and six.

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Iraq buries its dead children with vow to avenge missile strike

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Thousands took part in a funeral march on Wednesday, some calling for vengeance, past the ruins of a Baghdad primary school blasted by an Iranian missile that killed 36 people the day before.

At least 30 of the dead were young pupils at the Martyr's Place school and children from throughout Baghdad and the suburbs joined marchers carrying their coffins.

The ruling party newspaper Al Thawra declared that "the hour for revenge has come..." At least three adults also died in Tuesday's attack and more than 200 people were wounded, almost all of them small pupils at the school, according to latest casualty figures released at Yarmouk Hospital.

The Iraqi capital, target of 15 missile strikes this year but otherwise well insulated from the war-front carnage of the Iran-Iraq war, bore a sombre air.

Most schools were closed and parents kept their children at

home for fear of another attack. Baghdad Radio changed programmes to broadcast martial music, national songs and live coverage from the streets where demonstrations were held to condemn the Iranian attack.

The Defence Ministry newspaper Al Qadisiyah said the missile strike marked a decisive turning point in the Iran-Iraq war.

"It has given us complete legitimacy in the eyes of the world to use all that we have at hand in terms of lethal weapons to strike at every target we can reach... and there are no targets inside Iran that we cannot reach."

Al Thawra called the Iranian strike a great crime that would not go unpunished. "The time has come for us to punish those blood-thirsty killers and reply to

their malicious crime," it declared.

Iraq, if it chose to, could "destroy complete Iranian cities, turning them upside down — it is clear they (the Iranians) are pushing things towards the war of the cities, so the hour of revenge has come," the newspaper said.

Eight more civilians were killed and 36 wounded in Iranian shelling of the southern port of Basra and the border cities of Khanaqin, Qala'at Dezaif, Sirwan and Mendli during the night, an Iraqi military spokesman announced.

Officials at two hospitals packed with casualties from Tuesday's missile blast told the AP that many of the wounded had died during the night.

The missile exploded near the Belat Al Shohada'a (Martyr's Place) elementary school in a densely populated residential area in western Baghdad.

Iran said the missile had been aimed at the defence ministry which is the other side of the city. A military communique said 29 of the slain were students aged between six and 11.

Iranian boat strafes Kuwait-bound tanker

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — An Iranian gunboat raked a Kuwait-bound Liberian tanker with machinegun fire during the night in the second such attack on commercial shipping in the Gulf in three days, marine salvage executives reported Wednesday.

The U.S. navy was reported getting ready to repatriate via Oman four wounded Iranian survivors and two bodies picked up after a helicopter-shipboard clash in the northern Gulf six days ago.

A diplomatic spokesman in Muscat said the Omani government had agreed to serve again as go-between for the transfer of the

(Continued on page 3)

GCC ministers pledge backing for Saudi Arabia and Kuwait

ABU DHABI (Agencies) — Interior ministers of the six members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) concluded a two-day conference on Wednesday, pledging support for Saudi Arabia and Kuwait against Iranian threats.

"The ministers express support for all measures Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have taken to safeguard their security and stability," said a communique after a two-day meeting of GCC interior ministers.

Oman confirms border clash with South Yemenis

MUSCAT (Agencies) — The Omani government on Wednesday confirmed that South Yemeni and Omani forces clashed on the border earlier this week but declined comment on a Kuwaiti press report that eight Yemenis died in the incident.

A government spokesman told Reuters: "There was a clash between two border patrols due to a mistake."

The Kuwaiti newspaper Al Siyassah said Omani forces opened fire on a Yemeni patrol on Sunday, killing eight men, after it inadvertently strayed eight kilometres into Omani territory.

The spokesman said he had no information on Omani casualties in the clash which happened in a remote area of Oman's southern Dhofar province.

But he said the incident had not affected recently restored diplomatic links between Muscat and Aden. "There was no change at all in relations between the two countries," he said.

Oman and South Yemen announced earlier this year they would soon open embassies in each other's countries and are currently holding talks to resolve a long-standing border dispute.

King and Koivisto agree on urgent need to settle Arab-Israeli conflict and Gulf war

Petra

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein, now on a state visit to Finland, held talks on Wednesday with Finnish President Mauno Koivisto on Middle East questions and the Iran-Iraq war.

The King explained the developments in the Arab-Israeli problem and the current efforts for arriving at a lasting settlement on the basis of exchanging land for peace.

The two sides agreed in the meeting on the need for holding an international conference under United Nations auspices to implement U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

On the Iran-Iraq conflict, the two sides stressed the need of

implementing Security Council Resolution 598 in full so that the war would stop and the Gulf region be free again of foreign intervention which could entail dangerous situation leading to a return of the policy of polarisation.

Both sides called on Iran to respond favourably to calls of peace.

The King and Mr. Koivisto discussed bilateral cooperation and decided that teams from both countries should meet to discuss the idea of a joint committee that can supervise the development of Jordanian-Finnish cooperation in cultural and economic fields.

The talks were attended by Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Foreign Minister Taher

Al Masri and Jordan's Ambassador to Finland Faleh Al Tawil.

On the Finnish side the talks were attended by Finland's prime minister, the secretary general of the president's office, the under-secretary of the Ministry of State and the director of commercial affairs.

Later Wednesday, King Hussein visited the Finnish parliament in Helsinki and met with its speaker and members of parliament. The speaker made a speech welcoming the King and praising the existing parliamentary cooperation between Jordan and Finland through the exchange of visits by parliamentarians.

He said King Hussein's visit to Finland would lead to further cooperation in promoting better

understanding of the Middle East problems.

The speaker also voiced hope that a visit in the coming few weeks by Finnish parliamentarians to Jordan in the course of a tour of the Middle East would result in acquiring a better understanding of the problems of the region.

King Hussein said he was pleased to be in Finland and to meet with the Finnish parliamentarians and asked that his greetings be conveyed to the people of Finland.

King Hussein hoped that his visit would help promote the friendly relations between Finland and Jordan.

(Continued on page 3)

Arab leaders receive summit invitation

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency despatches

AMMAN — The leaders of Algeria, Somalia and Mauritania on Wednesday received formal invitations from His Majesty King Hussein to attend the extraordinary Arab summit to be held in Amman on Nov. 8.

While Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh delivered the invitation to Algerian President Chadli Benjedid in Algeria, Education Minister Thougan Hindawi delivered a similar invitation to Somali President Mohammad Siad Barre in Mogadishu.

In an interview with Algerian Television, Mr. Abu Odeh said he discussed with President Benjedid prospects and preparations for the summit. Mr. Abu Odeh said he conveyed to Mr. Benjedid the King's greetings and "the high hopes His Majesty pins on Algerian participation in the summit conference."

Algeria enjoys a high reputation for its positive stands over Arab causes, and the country's presence in the summit will be very effective in the workings of the conference, Mr. Abu Odeh said.

Mr. Abu Odeh returned home later Wednesday from Algeria. In Nouakchott, Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali was expected to meet with Mauritania's President Maouya Ould Sidi Ahmad Taya to deliver the invitation.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, in a dispatch from Mogadishu, quoted President Siad Barre as saying that he would lead his country's delegation to the summit. Mr. Siad Barre also praised the King's efforts at "unifying Arab ranks and his ability to overcome challenges facing the Arab Nation, particularly at this stage," Petra reported.

Lebanese President Amin Gemayel, who received the summit invitation on Tuesday from Occupied Territories Affairs Minister Marwan Al Dudin, will head the Lebanese delegation to the summit conference, Petra said.

Mr. Dudin returned home on Wednesday after delivering the message. In a statement to Petra, Mr. Dudin said he also conveyed the King's greetings to the Lebanese president.

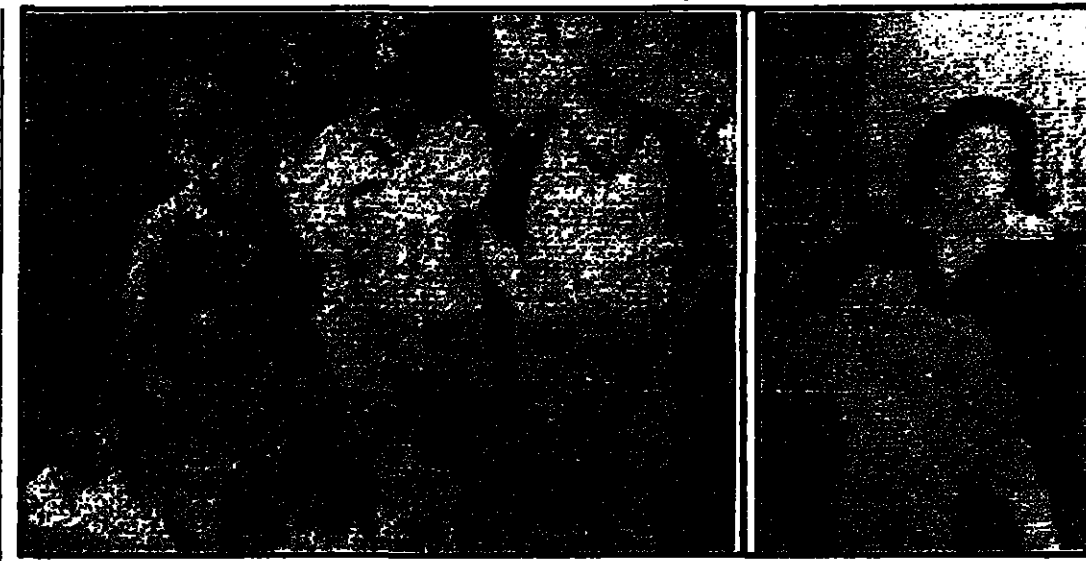
Petra quoted Mr. Dudin as saying that President Gemayel accepted the invitation.

Assad meets Klibi

Meanwhile, Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi met in Damascus with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and discussed with him issues related to the gathering, the Syrian news agency (SANA) reported.

SANA said Mr. Assad and Mr. Klibi also discussed the situation in the Arab World.

Mr. Klibi arrived in Damascus Tuesday after a visit to Iraq. On arrival, he said Syria had a leading role "in our area, in particular the ongoing preparations for the Arab summit."



The family that lost its mother: Children of Mrs. Inayat Samir Al Hindi, the 35-year-old Palestinian mother of five who was shot dead by Israeli soldiers

on Monday in Ramallah. On right is Mrs. Hindi with her youngest child a few days before her death.

Widespread Arab protests continue in occupied territories

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Widespread Palestinian protests continued for the eighth straight day on Wednesday and Israeli forces detained at least 25 Palestinian demonstrators.

Many shops and schools in Arab Jerusalem remained shut for the fifth straight day to protest a visit by Jews to the Haram Al Sharif complex, one of Islam's holiest shrines, on Wednesday.

At least 25 Palestinians were detained on Wednesday during demonstrations at the Anabta refugee camp on the northern outskirts of Jerusalem. Demonstrations were also reported from Ramallah in the West Bank and Khan Younis on the Gaza Strip.

The Israeli army imposed a curfew on the Dheisheh refugee camp near Bethlehem after protests and stone-throwing in which an Israeli motorist was injured.

In Ramallah, schoolgirls protesting the Israeli killing of a 35-year-old Palestinian mother of five on Monday threw stones at occupation soldiers who lobbed tear-gas shells to disperse them, according to reports from the area.

In the Arab Jerusalem suburb of Abu Dis, Palestinian demonstrators closed schools and threw stones. In the Anabta camp, protesters burned tyres and barricaded roads.

Meanwhile Israeli sources quoted by Reuters said Israeli forces had smashed a major guerrilla network of the Islamic Jihad movement in the Gaza Strip and arrested at least 50 suspected guerrillas.

They said a shootout in Gaza last week in which four Arabs and an Israeli undercover security agent were killed led investigators to discover a big under-

ground weapons arsenal in Gaza's Shajaiye district and to make dozens of arrests.

The guerrillas are suspected of numerous attacks and acts of sabotage in the Gaza Strip in recent months, they said. (Israeli military censors made deletions from this report, Reuters said).

Israel's Itim news agency reported that a 37-year-old resident of the Shati refugee camp in Gaza was killed Tuesday night. The report said police were investigating the killing.

Itim also reported that guards at Hebron prison used tear gas to quell a protest Wednesday, wounding one inmate.

A former Israeli military governor of the West Bank said Wednesday Palestinians were becoming more daring in their resistance attacks against Israelis

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Suddarth: Mideast to figure high in Shultz-Shevardnadze talks

By Hamadeh Fara'neh Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze will discuss the Middle East and the Arab-Israeli conflict during their meeting in Moscow on Oct. 22, the American ambassador to Jordan said Wednesday.

Roscoe Suddarth, who presented his credentials to His Majesty King Hussein last week, noted that Mr. Shultz with His Majesty in London and visit the Middle East before proceeding to Moscow for his talks with Mr. Shevardnadze on finalising an accord to eliminate intermediate-range nuclear forces.

A superpower agreement "on issues of nuclear arms is a first step to an important historic stage that will create a suitable political atmosphere to resolve various regional issues with a positive spirit," said Mr. Suddarth in an exclusive interview with the Jordan Times and its sister Arabic daily Al Rai.

"The United States views with extreme concern the situation in the Middle East region and does not hesitate in exerting efforts to



Roscoe Suddarth

reach a political settlement to the Middle East crisis," said Mr. Suddarth, who was a deputy to Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy before being appointed ambassador to Jordan. "In this respect, Secretary of State George Shultz's visit to the region is to hold consultations and exchange ideas and opinions with the leaders in the region, particularly His Majesty King Hussein with whom Secretary Shultz will meet in London," Mr. Suddarth said. "This move which comes on the eve of Mr. Shultz's visit to

Moscow demonstrates the importance of the Middle East region from the American viewpoint. Middle East issues will be on the agenda of the American-Soviet talks as well as other vital issues which concern world peace and security.

Mr. Suddarth reiterated Washington's stand that direct talks among the parties involved in the Middle East conflict are the best means to achieve Arab-Israeli peace but said the U.S. was willing to discuss the idea of an international conference on the issue. "We believe that direct negotiations among the parties concerned is the practical way to reach a peaceful settlement. We are also prepared to discuss the idea of convening an international conference as one of the means available that will lead to peace in the Middle East," Mr. Suddarth said. "We believe in the need for Palestinian participation at every stage of negotiations and we support King Hussein's suggestion to form a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to achieve this objective of peace."

The ambassador said his country was working with the rest of

(Continued on page 3)

Rome will not withdraw ships from Gulf to meet Kurdish kidnappers' demands

ROME (Agencies) — Premier Giovanni Goria indicated Tuesday that Italy has no intention of withdrawing its warships from the Gulf to meet the demands of pro-Iranian Kurds who kidnapped three Italian engineers.

Italian television, meanwhile, reported that a Paris-based representative of the Kurdish group pledged that the Italians were safe and would eventually be released.

Mr. Goria said the government's principal objective was the safeguarding of human life.

Asked by reporters if Italy would consider pulling back the task force in light of the kidnappings, Mr. Goria said "let's not confuse things that have nothing to do with each other. There is no connection."

Mr. Goria did not elaborate. Mr. Goria made a similar statement later in an interview broadcast on state-run RAI television Tuesday night, adding "our ships are not in the Gulf to make war, nor to take the side of one or the other combatants. We are in a position of absolute neutrality, defending national interests."

He said it was "necessary" to contact the Kurdish captors "to explain to these men that they should return to civilised rules, that they should release the hostages."

A pro-Iranian Kurdish group, calling itself the Iraqi Kurdistan National Union, claimed it kidnapped the three Italian engineers and demanded the withdrawal of Italian warships from the Gulf.

On Tuesday, the official Ira-

nian News Agency IRNA reported that the Kurds, whom it identified as the patriotic union of Kurdistan (PUK), would hold the engineers until Italy stops providing military aid to Iraq.

A RAI correspondent in Paris reported that he interviewed the chief European representative of the PUK, who told him that the Italians are in no danger and would eventually be freed unharm.

"There is no reason to fear for their life or their safety," the man, identified only as Banami, was quoted as saying. "We will return them."

The Kurdish representative did not say when the Italians would be released, but recalled the incident two years ago in which an Italian engineer was kidnapped in the same zone and released unharm five months later, RAI said.

The man said "indirect contacts" were underway between the Italian government and the Kurds for release of the captives, the RAI report said.

RAI quoted the Kurdish representative as saying the Italians were seized because they had sought authorisation from the PUK to work in the area, and also as a sign of protest against Western "indifference" to air raids on Kurdish targets.

The Italian News Agency

ANSA quoted the same Kurdish representative as saying, "Italian arms are being used in Iraq against the Kurdish population and Kurdish guerrillas."

Meanwhile, the Foreign Ministry said Italian officials met here with Iraqi Ambassador Kadam Al Sahaf and asked for "every possible collaboration on the part of authorities in Baghdad to throw light on the affair."

The Rome government came under heavy fire on Tuesday for keeping the kidnapping of Italians secret until the news emerged in Beirut.

The delay over revealing the abductions drew angry protests from opposition parties. It created new difficulties for Mr. Goria, whose five-party government has repeatedly been buffeted by problems since July.

The neo-fascist MSI party said in a parliamentary question for Mr. Goria that the government must urgently clarify the circumstances of the kidnappings, saying its "silence to parliament and therefore the Italian people ... (is) irresponsible and unprecedented."

Mario Capanna, a leader of the leftwing Proletarian Democracy Party, said Mr. Goria's silence about the kidnappings even during a parliamentary debate last week on the naval mission to the Gulf was "morally unacceptable, politically shortsighted and institutionally provocative."

He said the government had kept from parliament information vital for assessing the naval mission and called for the withdrawal of Italy's ships.

subject came up. "I was interested in ... why I had not been kept informed, and he (Mr. Weinberger) told me that he had known about it for some time and that he had opposed it and that the decision had been made by the president," the JCS chairman said.

"It was his understanding that a conscious decision had been made that it was not a military matter so it was not necessary to bring in the military," he said.

Soviets join drive to oust Israel from U.N.

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Despite recent improving ties, the Soviet Union joined Tuesday in an unsuccessful Arab-led drive to oust Israel from the U.N. General Assembly.

Delegates voted 80 to 39, with 10 abstentions, for a Finnish motion that no action be taken on an Arab challenge to Israel's credentials.

Israel's delegate said he was disappointed by the Soviet support of the challenge.

"There is an apparent contradiction between the Soviet call to Israel to participate in an international conference under U.N. sponsorship and their vote to expel us from this very body," Ambassador Benjamin Netanyahu said in a statement.

The envoy was referring to Soviet support for a proposed international conference to be convened under U.N. auspices to resolve Arab-Israeli differences. He said the vote showed that Kremlin policy is lagging in some areas.

Mr. Gorbachev has said his country's lack of diplomatic relations with Israel, which the Kremlin severed during the 1967 Middle East war, was "not normal" and has endorsed some rapprochement.

The Soviet Union has granted more than 5,000 exit visas to Jews this year, compared to fewer than 1,000 last year. In addition, the first Soviet diplomatic delegation to visit Israel in 20 years has unexpectedly extended its stay. Cultural ties have also been increasing.

The only other East Bloc countries supporting the Arab position were Cuba and East Germany. Yugoslavia and Romania supported Israel, and Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Hungary and Poland stayed away during the voting.

Egypt, the only Arab state to make peace with Israel, voted in favour of Israel's continued seating.

The United States, which supported Israel, maintains a standard threat to quit the 159-member United Nations if the Jewish state is ousted.

U.S. panel considers charging for Gulf escort

WASHINGTON (AP) — A House of Representatives committee is weighing a proposal to charge oil tankers for U.S. military escort and mine-sweeping services in the Gulf, committee aides have said.

The user fee proposal would raise an estimated \$95 million annually by charging at least \$250,000 per voyage through the Gulf. It was expected to be approved Wednesday by the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, committee aides said.

The "Navigation Enhancement User Fee Act of 1987" is endorsed by Committee Chairman Walter B. Jones, an opposition Democrat, and Representative Robert W. Davis, the ranking Republican member.

Duncan Smith, a Davis aide, said committee members were briefed privately on the proposal Tuesday and "of those who were there, many of them liked it."

Vessels would be charged either \$250,000 per voyage or the actual cost of the services, whichever is higher.

A committee memo on the proposal said the voyage estimates are based on the number of Kuwaiti oil tankers now under U.S. flags and receiving armed escort, surveillance and mine-sweeping services from U.S. forces.

Soviets review Iranian pipeline to Black Sea

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union and Iran have not yet reached agreement on plans to build an oil pipeline across Soviet territory to the Black Sea, a senior Foreign Ministry official said on Wednesday.

Oleg Peresypkin, head of the ministry's diplomatic academy, told the newspaper Sovetskaya Rossiya that renovation of an Iranian gas pipeline to the Soviet Union and rail links from Iran to Soviet Central Asia were also still under review.

"Economic contacts have major significance in our bilateral relations," Mr. Peresypkin said. He said it was only natural that Moscow would seek to improve relations with neighbouring Iran, while maintaining friendly ties with the Gulf Arab states.

The Soviet Union announced in August that it had agreed with Iran to cooperate on large-scale economic projects, prompting

speculation that an Iranian oil pipeline across Soviet territory to the Black Sea could be in the offing.

The overland pipeline would allow Iran to circumvent the Gulf for shipments of its most precious commodity and its oil export losses due to the raging tanker war.

Moscow, which has friendship treaty with Baghdad and is its major arms supplier, would have to take into account the views of Iraq because a secure outlet for Iranian oil exports could change the course of the war.

Some Western commentators have expressed concern that the Soviet Union could gain advantages in the region from its new economic contacts with Iran at a time of growing tension.

But Mr. Peresypkin, a leading Soviet officialist just back from a stay in Baghdad, dismissed the idea.

The Pentagon refused on Tuesday to confirm or deny a published report that U.S. military forces in the Gulf were seeking extended authority to protect any merchant ship attacked by Iran in the waterway.

But the Reagan administration quickly stressed that U.S. policy in the Gulf had not changed.

Such a step would be a major escalation of Washington's posture in the region, where a U.S. naval force of some 30 ships are now under orders to protect only American shipping, including Kuwaiti tankers flying U.S. flags.

The Washington Post, quoting Western sources, reported that the expanded authority to protect any merchant ship which requests help had been sought by Rear Admiral Harold Bernsen, commander of the U.S. Middle East Force in the Gulf.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater told reporters he was unaware of any such request from Adm. Bernsen, but stressed:

"There has been no change in our policy. U.S. forces are there to protect U.S. flag ships and, in some cases, ships carrying U.S. military material."

In a story from Dubai, United Arab Emirates, the Post said Adm. Bernsen was seeking approval from Washington to

U.S. strategy should focus on containing Iranian revolution

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. strategy in the Gulf should aim at keeping Iran from spreading its Islamic fundamentalist revolution to the Arab World, even if military force must be used, the chairman of the House of Representatives Armed Forces Committee has said.

The danger of the Iranian revolution is its focus on destabilising the Islamic World in general and the neighbouring Arab states in particular, said Representative Les Aspin.

Mr. Aspin has been critical of President Ronald Reagan's plan of refitting 11 Kuwaiti tankers and protecting them with U.S. Navy convoys in the Gulf. He renewed that criticism Tuesday in a speech to the National Women's Democratic Club.

"We need to work toward a plan to end the escorting and refitting on our timetable and on our terms," he said.

But speaking to the larger issue

he demanded that President Reagan declare the force in "imminent danger" of hostilities.

Many lawmakers are pressing for authority under the war powers act to order U.S. forces home if necessary.

"I will not discuss the rules of engagement in any way, shape or form," Mr. Hoffman told reporters when pressed on whether U.S. forces would respond to protect non-American merchant shipping which might come under attack while tagging along on Kuwaiti tanker convoys.

"It is our policy to protect U.S. forces and (U.S.) ships in the Gulf," was all Mr. Hoffman would say.

The refusal to comment was in keeping with the Pentagon's tight-lipped security posture on the Gulf, where U.S. attack helicopters have twice in recent weeks attacked Iranian boats which were laying mines or had fired first at a helicopter.

Meanwhile, four U.S.-flagged Kuwaiti tankers arrived safely in Kuwait on Tuesday following a trip northward through the Gulf. Mr. Hoffman said the convoy, the eleventh since the United States began escorting U.S. flag Kuwaiti tankers in July, began its 880-kilometre Gulf transit early on Sunday.

of the long Iran-Iraq war, he said the "basic and fundamental question" for the region is the threat posed by Iran's fundamentalist regime to Gulf Arab nations such as Bahrain, Kuwait and Oman.

The United States can't ignore or suppress the Iranian revolution, he said, but "we can contain it."

"And that is the strategy we should follow for dealing with the Islamic Republic of Iran," he said. "Containment can't work for centuries, but it can work for years."

He said the challenge is "to mobilise the world behind such a strategy, and to convince Iran that the world is not about to allow the Iranians to export their revolution by force or subversion."

A world effort would have to include the Soviet Union, he said, however unpleasant that might be.

U.S. military chief not informed of Iran sales

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan cut out his top military advisers from the U.S. arms sales to Iran and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) found out about some aspects in news accounts, testimony has said.

Admiral William Crowe, JCS chairman since 1985, said Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger also failed to mention details of the 1985-1986 sale of Tow anti-tank weapons and spare

parts for Hawk anti-aircraft batteries.

"I was startled," Adm. Crowe told the Iran-contra committees in a closed-door session on June 18 in describing his reaction on first learning of the shipments of U.S. arms to Iran — months after they got underway in Feb 1986.

Adm. Crowe said he confronted Mr. Weinberger about the sales in late June or early July last year after one of his assistants had attended a meeting in which the

subject came up.

"I was interested in ... why I had not been kept informed, and he (Mr. Weinberger) told me that he had known about it for some time and that he had opposed it and that the decision had been made by the president," the JCS chairman said.

"It was his understanding that a conscious decision had been made that it was not a military matter so it was not necessary to bring in the military," he said.

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15:55 Children of Green

16:00 Health and Life (Lith)

16:05 Arabic Series

16:10 Programme on Education

16:15 Programme review

16:20 News in Arabic

16:25 A programme on Crown Prince

16:30 Arabic series

16:35 Local varieties programme

16:40 Arabic film

16:45 News summary in Arabic

16:50 Arabic film contd

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09:00 Newsdesk 09:30 Time for Verse

09:40 The Farming World 10:00 World

News 10:05 24 Hours News Summary

10:30 The Best of British 10:45

Network UK 11:00 World News 11:05

Reflections 11:15 Sports World 11:30

John Peel 12:00 World News 12:05

British Press Review 12:15 The World

Today 12:45 Training for Tomorrow

13:00 News Summary 13:30 Don't Stop

Now 14:00 News Summary Just Little

OT Lane 14:30 News About Britain

14:45 News Ideas 14:55 A Letter from

England 15:00 Assignment 15:00

Radio Newsdesk 15:15 Multicard 2 —

Top Ten 15:45 News Summary 16:00

World News 16:30 Network UK

16:45 The Spinners 17:00 Outlook

Opening with News Summary 17:45

3:30 News 16:00 News Summary 17:45

World News 19:00 Commentary 19:15

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AOSM marks Int'l Standardisation Day

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Amman-based Arab Organisation for Standardisation and Metrology (AOSM) Wednesday marked the international day for standards and specifications with a special ceremony during which speeches were made reviewing efforts to unify standards and specifications of products in the Arab World.

AOSM Secretary General Mahdi Hannoush, in an address to the ceremony, pointed out his organisation's endeavours towards providing Arab states with modern methods and expertise to help unify specifications.

He also underlined the importance of unifying standards and specifications in the fields of industry, trade, and agriculture with the purpose of boosting production and exports.

Dr. Hannoush Tuesday issued a statement underlining the importance of the AOSM's work in strengthening Arab economy.

Since the establishment of the AOSM in 1968, Dr. Hannoush said, the organisation has been contributing towards the improvement of the Arab economy through coordinating standards of products in various Arab countries. The AOSM has been operating in the Arab World through its 33 different committees and

has been helping Arab states in laying unified standards for their different products. Dr. Hannoush noted.

Another speaker at Wednesday's ceremony was Mr. Ibrahim Qaqish, director of AOSM's specifications and standards department.

He said that unified standards are bound to boost development of trade and industry and open markets for the Arab countries' products abroad.

Mr. Qaqish said that the AOSM's work aims at raising the quality and volume of production and increasing the volume of trade between the Arab countries and between the Arab nation and other parts of the world.

The AOSM was set up as a specialised institution of the Arab League to operate in the field of economic, commercial and industrial cooperation. Its activity covers all fields related to the unification of technical terms and standard specifications for products such as food, clothes, fertilisers, building materials, oil, minerals, and electrical products. It also deals with technical drawing and packaging, assists in the establishment of national bodies and collaborates with international organisations in the field.



AOSM secretary general (centre), Mahdi Hannoush Wednesday presides over a meeting to celebrate International Standardisation Day (Petra photo)

CAEU companies call for Arab support

AMMAN (J.T.) — Pan-Arab companies formed by the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) ended a meeting in Amman Wednesday by issuing an appeal to Arab governments to back pan-Arab companies which aim at bolstering the Arab World's economy.

The meeting issued a statement in which the delegates urged Arab states to pay up their capitals in the joint companies formed by the CAEU to help them to pursue their operations and contribute to the economic and social development of Arab states.

The statement urged Arab governments to promote projects which tend to benefit the Arab economic integration and to help pan-Arab companies to coordinate their work and carry out their projects.

The delegates represented the Arab Mining Company, the Arab Company for Drug Industries and Medical Appliances, the Arab Company for the Development of Animal Wealth and the Arab

Company for Industrial Development.

CAEU Secretary General Mahdi Al Obeidi, who opened the meeting underlined the need for pan-Arab companies to play a leading role in enhancing economic integration among Arab states.

In their final statement Wednesday the delegates said that they decided to hold their next meeting in Amman during the first half of July 1988.

Study shows increased spending on health, warns of growth in population

AMMAN (Petra) — A study on health care in Jordan has revealed that improved health services in the Kingdom over the past few years had led to a drop in the mortality rate by 50 per cent especially among children.

The study, compiled by Mr. Rabea Hinnawi from the Jordanian Pharmacists Association (GPA), said that the improvement in health services was largely due to the Health Ministry's increase in its various contributions to the total health sector.

The study pointed out that the improvement in health services has led to an increase in the population growth in Jordan, now standing at 3.8 per cent, thus adding to the burdens on the government services in general and affecting the economic and health sectors in particular.

If the present rate of population growth is maintained, the study noted, the population

would double its size within the coming 18 years, in what is regarded as probably one of the highest rates of population growth worldwide.

In addition, the study says, a progressive increase in population will eventually lead to a momentous increase in the volume of unemployed people especially among university graduates, because Jordan has probably one of the highest rates of university graduates in the world.

The study noted that the Ministry of Health has adopted a policy of opening health centres around the Kingdom to provide vaccination, mother and child care and other basic services, and has in addition to the present facilities worked out plans to build another five hospitals and enlarge three existing ones to cope with the growing demand on health services.

This, it said, has contributed to the improvement of health for all citizens, and consequently led to the growing number of population.

According to the study, the Health Ministry's budget in 1985 amounted to JD 27 million, but due to an increase in the volume of health services, it rose to JD 31 million in 1986. The figure is double the budget of 1980.

In general, JD 80 million is being invested in health services and health projects in the Kingdom. The amount corresponds to 4.6 per cent of Jordan's gross national product, the study said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Preparation for King Abdullah museum underway

AMMAN (Petra) — A team from Forum Humanum has completed preliminary surveys on the home of the late King Abdullah, founder of the Kingdom, as a first step towards transforming it into a national museum. The team was assisted in the work by a number of teachers and students from the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST), according to Mr. Fathi Samhouri from Forum Humanum. Mr. Samhouri said that not only JUST but also the University of Jordan, and Mu'ta University as well as other organisations would take part in executing the different stages of the project. The work will involve the history and engineering departments at various universities and other institutions. Mr. Samhouri added. The team involved in the work met Wednesday with Mr. Jamal Momani, the Maan governor, with whom they reviewed the progress of the work.

Arab Air Cargo opens meeting today

AMMAN (Petra) — The board of directors of the Arab Air Cargo today opens talks in Amman to study means of promoting the operations of the company, a joint Jordanian-Iraqi venture. Mr. Ghassan Radwan, Iraq's under secretary of the ministry of transport and communications arrived in Amman Wednesday at the head of the Iraqi team to the meeting which will look into the company's technical and administrative issues.

Al Hussein Mosque under renovation

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs announced Wednesday that restoration and renovation work is now going on at Al Hussein Mosque in downtown Amman. It called on worshippers to avoid going to the mosque for the Friday prayers.

By Monika Warich
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — With its large Pepsi factory and various other commercial buildings, garages and workshops, divided by the Amman-Zarqa highway and the main road from downtown to Zarqa, and exposed to sun and wind with barely a tree to supply shade, Marqa does not seem the most likely place for families to choose for their new homes.

But a new low-cost housing estate of the Urban Development Department (UDD), about one-half kilometre from both the highway and the commercial centre of Marqa, was sold out in no time. A number of applicants even had to be turned away, says director of the monitoring and programming unit of UDD Nidal Ka kish.

The UDD was established in 1980 to meet the need for inexpensive quality housing units and to relieve the severe housing shortage. Until late 1986, the UDD was part of the Amman Municipality. It has recently been incorporated into the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, as its responsibilities have been extended to cover the entire Kingdom as well as to facilitate financing.

During the past ten years, Amman has doubled its area, and its population has been growing at an annual rate of four per cent. Today, 1.5 million people live in the Amman region, and the numbers are still increasing, according

to a recent UDD report. The study estimates that more than 300,000 people within the Greater Amman region live in deficient accommodations and lack essential services and that one third of those live in squatter areas.

In developing its approach to low-cost housing and the squatter problem, the UDD could draw on the experience gained by similar projects in developing countries, many of which had failed due to various reasons. The World Bank, who also contribute financially to UDD, has already helped implement more than 60 low-income housing projects.

The key to success with this type of low-cost/low-income housing schemes seems to lie with a few basic concepts and their adaptation to the local conditions and, perhaps most important, to the people's mentality. "Jordanian families are principally opposed to the idea of living in flats or apartments. They prefer their own house even if it has only two rooms," says UDD Engineer Lubna Abu Zahra. The Marqa site and service housing scheme, which is also where the UDD has its new headquarters, shows this concept is working.

"We take care to select sites close to centres and within easy reach of main roads, like the Marqa housing estate which is about ten minutes away from Marqa and near the Zarqa highway connecting it with both Amman and Zarqa," Mr. Kakish

said. The prospective owners were offered a choice between various types of plots. A so called "B-type" plot, for instance, has two rooms and a WC and is built on a 150 square metre piece of land, while a "C" plot is the same size, but with only one room and a WC. There are also empty plots ("A" and "D" types) from 150 to 500 square metres. The larger ones were auctioned on a basic price of JD 10 to 15 per square metre.

All plots are connected to electricity, water and sewage systems and have access to the road network. These alternatives were designed to give families of various sizes and levels of income a choice of appropriate accommodations. But the most important feature of the UDD's site and service scheme is the fact that the house can be extended both horizontally and vertically — at the owners' expense — by adding rooms and building up to three stories high. For owners of "C" and "D" type plots, building material loans for JD 1,000 are available which enable them to build two rooms as soon as possible so they can move in and save rent money.

The average monthly income of the families ranges from JD 100 to 180, according to UDD statistics, but even families earning a minimum of JD 70 per month are accepted as buyers. Due to monthly instalments of only JD 20 to 40 spread over 15 to 18

years to repay the loan of about JD 4,000 for a plot and a minimal downpayment of five per cent, even those earning very low incomes are able to afford a house at their estate, says Ms. Abu Zahra.

It is possible to divert the ownership of the housing unit to another family member — normally the wife — if the applicant should become unable to meet the financial responsibilities, for instance due to unemployment, and if the other member provides the family's income. However, should a family become run into difficulties to pay the instalments over a prolonged period, the UDD will, possibly together with the Welfare Department, try to find a solution. If after two warnings and about one year, no solution is in sight, they will sue the concerned owner. From 1984 up to now, there have only been four legal cases in the Marqa estate, Ms. Abu Zahra added.

All plots available at the Marqa housing project, including the coreshops — a plot to accommodate a small shop plus a residential unit — were in great demand. Mr. Kakish said. The only units not yet completely sold are some shops for purely commercial use. They will be auctioned off without a set price limit, and they are also the only ones UDD are selling at a profit.

The government covers 30 per cent of the real cost for UDD's projects, while 29 per cent is contributed by the Housing Bank, 25 per cent by the World

Bank and 16 per cent by UDD, Ms. Abu Zahra said.

The Marqa housing project, altogether over 700 plots, was completed in 1985. By this time the infrastructure and services were provided and the families started to move in — today, there are almost 5,000 inhabitants. During the last two years, most houses have been expanded by their owners, painted and some faced with white limestone. Many families have decorated walls and windowsills with flowers and potted plants and some houses have small gardens. The paved streets are meticulously clean and the public footpaths between houses are lined with shrubs and flowerbeds.

Although the population density is relatively high, the estate gives by no means a crowded impression. According to UDD statistics, 3.5 persons on the average share one room, while for the Urban East Bank (UEB), the figure is only 2.6. The average size of household is 6.6 persons, which is slightly lower than that of the UEB with 6.8 persons.

A typical family in the Marqa housing scheme can spend less than JD 150 per month, and their breadwinner is most likely a worker or unskilled labourer. They would probably come from the poorer Eastern and Southern areas of Amman or from Zarqa or Ruseifa, and would have rented their former place, paying monthly rents of between JD 15 up to JD 40. They must be of

Jordanian nationality and must not earn more than JD 250 per month, Ms. Abu Zahra said.

After completion of the construction work by UDD at the end of 1985, the plots of the Marqa estate went very quickly, and a kind of computer controlled lottery was used to make sure families were picked at random from the great number of applicants. The same system is used by the UDD whenever the number of applicants exceeds available plots in one of their projects. However, applicants turned down for one site will get priority in the next. There are sometimes waiting periods of up to two years, which is seen by many applicants as too long. But Ms. Abu Zahra explained that this criticism does not take into account that not a whole neighbourhood, including all the necessary infrastructure, is being built up at once.

Phase three of the UDD projects, started at the beginning of this year, is scheduled to be completed by 1992. It includes five upgrading projects and new sites at Aqaba, two upgrading projects at Zarqa and one upgrading and site and service scheme in Amman. Altogether, phase 3 will provide 2,000 new housing units and 5,000 upgraded units for a total of 44,000 beneficiaries, at a projected cost of JD 31 million. Additionally, probably 6,000 to 10,000 job opportunities will be created in connection with the projects.

King and Koivisto agree on urgent need for peace

(Continued from page 1)

The King and Queen Noor were later guests of honour at a luncheon hosted by the mayor of Helsinki who made a speech welcoming the King and the Queen. The mayor said that the King and the Queen's visit coincided with celebrations marking Helsinki's 175th anniversary. He also presented a briefing on the developments of the city.

The mayor presented the King with the emblem of Helsinki and presented the Queen with a traditional handwoven cloth made by the people of Helsinki.

King Hussein made a speech in which he voiced his deep appreciation of the hospitality accorded to him and the Queen during the visit to Helsinki.

"We have been most impressed by what we have seen in the two days we have been here and by the well-planned manner in which you have provided the citizens of Helsinki with the amenities of modern life while maintaining the character of your historic landmarks and the atmosphere of

spaciousness," the King said. Later at a special ceremony the King and Queen met with the heads of diplomatic missions in Helsinki.

Queen Noor, accompanied by Mrs. Koivisto visited the Helsinki Academy on Wednesday.

The Queen heard pieces of classic music and expressed hope that cooperation would be launched between the academy and the Jordanian National Music Conservatory, which was recently established in Amman by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation.

Mideast to figure high in U.S.-Soviet talks

(Continued from page 1)

The U.N. Security Council members towards implementing Resolution 598 of July 20 which calls for an immediate ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war and negotiations to find a peaceful settlement to the seven-year-old conflict.

"We strongly support Security Council Resolution 598," he said. "It is a fair and balanced resolution that has been approved unanimously and therefore it should be adhered to and complied with. We are working with the other members of the Security Council to implement this resolution as speedily as possible and we call for enforcement measures to implement this resolution."

The Arab League's decision to convene an extraordinary Arab summit in Amman next month is a "tribute to King Hussein's wisdom and policies and to his active and effective efforts," Mr. Suddarth said. "We hope that this summit will contribute to finding an immediate end to the Gulf war, to the reaching of a peaceful settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict and to the establishment of peace in Lebanon."

On Israel's arbitrary measures against the Arab Palestinian people in the occupied territories, the American ambassador said: "First of all, we do consider the territory occupied in 1967 to be occupied territory and we support

Resolution 242. There are obligations on any occupying power with respect to the inhabitants of the land it is occupying.

"We have a clear policy in this regard that is based on the following principles:

1. We reject practices that violate human rights and we condemn any act of violence in the occupied land from any party or source. We believe that the building of settlements does not help to establish peace and constitutes an obstacle to peace.

2. We seek and contribute to improving the quality of life in the occupied territories through direct contributions and through American voluntary institutions in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip as well as by supporting the Jordanian initiative in its five-year plan to develop the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

3. We continue in our efforts to find a peaceful solution to the Middle East crisis and the Palestinian problem. It is the only way to end the conflict and the violence and to establish security and stability in the region."

Mr. Suddarth also expressed his deep happiness for presenting his credentials to His Majesty the King and his admiration for Jordan's accomplishments and achievements in the various economic, cultural and construction fields.

Ambassador Suddarth said that

he conveyed to King Hussein President Reagan's admiration and appreciation of His Majesty and the friendly Jordanian people as well as the wishes of the American administration and people for further progress and prosperity in Jordan.

Mr. Suddarth, who previously served in Jordan about eight years ago, added that the United States highly values the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries, particularly in the political, economic and security domains, adding that the U.S. government was determined to support Jordan's efforts in strengthening its economy, in the field of development and in enhancing its defensive capabilities.

In this respect, the American ambassador said he hoped that the administration would be able to persuade the U.S. Congress to be more responsive to Jordan's legitimate defensive requirements and hoped it will succeed in these efforts.

"We continue to cooperate with Jordan in military assistance projects," the ambassador added. "Moreover, the U.S. administration is determined to continue the existing effective and constructive political dialogue with Jordan on various issues of common interest and in order to bring about a just and lasting peaceful settlement of the Palestinian problem and the Arab-Israeli conflict," he said.

Iranians strafe Kuwait-bound tanker

(Continued from page 1)

logistics of where ships are at present."

Observers from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) were expected to be present again to witness the transfer, as in the case of the Iran Ajr survivors and two bodies returned to Iran.

The Iranian attack on the Liberator-flag tanker Atlantic Peace occurred off Dubai on Wednesday and the 84,631-tonne tanker was not damaged in the attack just after midnight (20:55 GMT), according to regional shipping sources quoted by Western news agencies.

The attack on the Kuwait-bound tanker followed another on Monday on a Saudi-flag vessel. The Iranian strikes on neutral commercial shipping are believed

to be in retaliation for Iraqi air raids on Iranian tanker traffic. Iran concentrates on Kuwait, and sometimes Saudi-related vessels when choosing victims, accusing the two countries of siding with Iraq in the Gulf war.

Salvage executives, quoted by AP, said the Atlantic Peace was sailing empty to Kuwait when attacked about 1,000 metres from where the Saudi products carrier Petroship B was raked by machinegun fire on Monday.

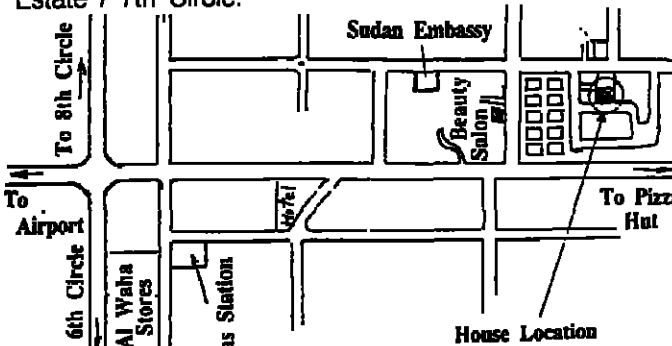
Shipping executives said Wednesday Iranian gunboats had been intercepting ships sailing into the Gulf, checking their cargo and destinations. "They are back again intercepting vessels and have so far checked out two Japanese ones," said a Dubai-based officer, who monitors radio contacts in the waterway.

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Bitter pill to swallow

THE U.S. appears to be getting a dose of its own medicine in the Gulf with revelations that the Iranians do possess the sophisticated Stinger missiles and did in fact make use of them against American helicopters in the Gulf last week. While the Pentagon denied the Iranian claim that one of its helicopters was downed, it kept a very meaningful silence over the Tehran statement that Stingers were in fact used in the confrontation.

The American Congress, which staunchly turned down requests for Stingers from Arab governments, Jordan and Bahrain included, should now be chewing its nails over reports that the same weapons that were denied to its friends in the region were being used against U.S. targets by the Iranians. The deadliest of Stinger attacks against American targets could yet be coming, and the fact remains that we haven't heard the last of the Stinger episode.

Adding insult to injury are intelligence reports in the Gulf that the Iranians may also be in possession of U.S.-made Maverick missiles, of the kind the U.S. administration removed from an arms package for Saudi Arabia under a compromise formula with Congress. In any event, the mere fact that the Iranians, who constitute one of the major threats the Arab nation has encountered in its history, are using the same kind of weapons that were denied to Arab states by the Americans is an open slap in the face. The strongest yet possibility is that the Iranians acquired the Stingers from Afghan rebels, who occupy a high place in American priorities and thus were "blessed" with the deadly weapon by Washington. So much for the U.S. Congress' feet-dragging over Stinger sales to Arab states and its strict conditions attached to the delivery of the missiles to Saudi Arabia. Washington seems to have overlooked the obvious; while in the case of Arab governments, the Americans did have every chance to ensure that the weapons did not fall into "unauthorised" hands, but everything goes with any rebel movement, whether in Afghanistan or in Africa. The pill becomes more bitter for the Americans with hints from Tehran that the revolutionary regime in Iran could have obtained the advanced weapons from a U.S. source. While one cannot but be sceptical over the Iranian claim that Tehran is manufacturing its own "copies" of Stingers, question marks remain over who could possibly provide the Iranians with the high technology needed for the venture.

The answer is anybody's guess. But in the whole episode lies yet another lesson for America and its strategists in the White House and the National Security Council. We can only hope this lesson will be well taken.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: An atrocious crime

SCORES of Iraqi children fell Tuesday as victims to Iran's malice and hatred. Their souls joined others before them — all innocent people — who have not provoked the Iranian attack nor did they realise that they were going to school for the last time in their life. All of a sudden the children were turned into a burning heap of bodies going up in flames and falling under the rubble of their school together with their desks, books and pencils. The attack proved once again the barbaric mentality of the Iranian leaders and their lust for killing. These rulers act like animals of prey eager to bring death to any living thing — children, women and old men. The missile attack on the Iraqi school was fired for the sake of quenching the lust of the Iranian rulers for killing and causing destruction to civilian centres. The attack provides another proof that the longer this war is allowed to last the more tragedies will be created, and the more disasters will befall the Islamic nation. This barbaric attack on the innocent children should bring the major capitals of the world to their senses and should move world organisations to act now and stop the conflict. Major world powers ought to stop their desire for exploiting poor nations and benefitting from their sufferings and tragedies, and ought to help bring an end to the conflict in our region. The death of the Iraqi children ought to bring to an end the death of the conscience of leaders of the world; and should prompt serious measures and concerted steps to stop the war. The death of the Iraqi children stands out as another witness of Iran's hostile attitude towards peace and its continued endeavour to kill all prospects for achieving peace. But the attack should place us all before our responsibilities and work in concert with all Arab states towards bringing an end to the tragedy.

Al Dustour: Iran kills children

THE Iranian missile which hit a children's school in Baghdad Tuesday killing and wounding scores of innocent people came to emphasise once again the barbaric nature of the Iranian rulers and to expose them further to the world at large. This barbaric action reflects the malice and hatred in the hearts and in the minds of the Tehran rulers against all Arab people and their children and women. It was one more piece of evidence, showing the vindictive character of the Iranian rulers who are bent on pursuing the killing of innocent people, and their disregard to any principles and norms. We are indeed powerless in finding the correct words for expressing our anger mixed with pain and our indignation at this barbaric and brutal action against the innocent children of Baghdad. This despicable crime has now opened the door wide for reprisals and retaliatory actions on the part of Iraq, thus inviting in more and more killing and destruction on both sides. The Iraqis have now vowed to retaliate and to strike hard at the Iranian cities because they were appalled at this heinous crime committed against their children. We are appalled at this situation and hope that world organisations will now make serious moves towards bringing this tragedy to an end. We condemn Iran's barbaric action and hope that the world community will now take speedy action for imposing peace on the Gulf region.

Jordan's economic adjustment policies: Need for new rules

By Dr. Fayez Tarawneh

The writer is economic adviser at the Prime Ministry. The following is based on a lecture he delivered recently to the Jordan-British Society in Amman:

THE SUBJECT of this discussion is the complex yet most pertinent and timely issue of adjustment policies in Jordan. Our aim is to reach a more profound understanding of the current challenges that face our economy and the controversial policies that could contribute towards improving its performance.

As an economist I find it imperative to confess at the outset, that the classical economic theory of automatic equilibrating adjustment mechanisms, and all its neat conditions and generalisations cannot be comfortably resorted to. Such theories are only applicable in a world of perfect competition — with all its wide and wild assumptions. Nowadays, the markets are imperfect, and the degree of imperfection increases with economic and social backwardness.

In retrospect, Jordan has always had policies that preserved the essence of its free market economy in terms of property rights; ownership of the means of production; free mobility of such means; liberal foreign exchange, trade and banking systems; dynamic legislation and flexible fiscal and monetary policies, etc.

The high degree of linkages with neighbouring Arab countries is yet another manifestation of the openness of the Jordanian economy. Forty per cent of our labour force works in other Arab countries. Their remittances make up around one third of our receipts of foreign exchange. Our exports to Arab countries make up more than half of our domestic exports. One hundred per cent of our oil imports are from Arab countries. With such a high degree of interaction in both the labour and commodity markets it comes as a surprise to no one, that the Jordanian economy is sensitive, and as such we hesitate to say it, vulnerable to economic conditions and developments in neighbouring countries. This should, in no way, be interpreted as a negative characteristic. Indeed, the booms that we enjoyed in the previous decade and the substantial economic and social developments that Jordan witnessed during that period were made possible by such an interaction. On the other hand, the economies of neighbouring countries had a lot to benefit from our skilled and high-

ly trained manpower which instantaneously filled the gap in their manpower needs required for their rapid progress. So it has been a relationship with mutual benefits for both parties. But one should realise that in addition to the positive effects that were experienced in periods of boom and prosperity in the region, there are costs inflicted on us during periods of regional recession which in fact has a multiplier effect on Jordan.

Since 1982, the Jordanian economy has witnessed what some may call a slowdown and others a recession in its economic performance — manifested in particular in the rates of growth. Since then, all efforts have been concentrated on curbing recession and stabilising the economy, in order to minimise the damages and to maximise the momentum for a new takeoff. And although not all of these efforts could be described as effective, yet many had actually intercepted the events and enabled our economy to maintain its relative position in the international classification (though below our expectations and our historical performance in absolute terms). But in general, our ability to narrow down the trade deficit, to keep a stable balance of payments, to control inflation and exchange rate, to keep the debt-service ratio within its safe borders and to achieve positive real rates of growth, all these factors are our source and data for optimism. Yet this is not enough as we realise that we cannot keep struggling with changes imposed on us. The time has come to reduce the degree of vulnerability and to create a systematic and well advanced set of rules and policies that can deal with changes from within and from without.

This is a general conclusion that can be derived from historical summation of events. One cannot deny that in the process, changes in the whole international economic order do occur, either sudden or gradual, that necessitate equal changes within the national economy. Such changes have actually occurred in the late seventies and early eighties in a number of developed and developing economies which were subjected to external shocks, the most important of which was the sudden and substantial increase in oil prices. Most of those countries embarked, either on their own, or through pressures exerted on them by international organisations such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) or

The World Bank, on comprehensive economic reform programmes often termed as stabilisation and adjustment policies. In Jordan, the change was initiated from within, and was not imposed by external parties. That is why in Jordan we had the option of being selective in the policies we choose. They emanated from a deep understanding of the specific characteristics of our economy and from our concern for the general wellbeing of our citizenry. Hence the drive towards increased efficiency was never allowed to be at the expense of equity.

In this context, the external and internal changes which we faced, and which required action, could be classified into two categories. Some of these changes were considered to be temporary in nature and they were usually handled administratively, using what I call adaptation procedures or policies, and some were permanent in nature, and were handled by legislation, and those I call adjustment policies. The important difference between adaptation and adjustment policies is that adjustment policies are continuous with economic development and take place as the economy moves from one threshold of development to another, and thus do not change the shape or pattern of the economic system or its philosophy; while adaptation policies might temporarily interfere or change such patterns.

So one should be able to distinguish between policies or regulations that are directed to face certain exigencies — for example, protective measures extended to local production against unfair international competition due to subsidies or dumping prices — in this case, the economy is adapting to a new environment even at the expense of efficiency for a certain period of time, and between the other set of policies that are directed towards adjusting the whole processes of development in the medium and long terms to increase efficiency, and to deepen the economic and social development.

The major adjustment policies that the government is currently undertaking include:

Adjustment policies directed towards the labour market that is currently facing structural unemployment as a result of the recession in the Gulf countries and the increased output of the educational system. Among the factors which are aggravating the labour market imbalance is the demog-

raphic structure where 50 per cent of the population is below 15 years of age.

The organisation of the labour market and the compatibility between the supply of labour and the demand for labour are the main concern of the new educational policies, the new cadre for Civil Service, and the government decisions on curbing unemployment.

In this connection, one can mention the most important provisions regarding these policies:

— Concentration on vocational training;

— Strengthening and updating statistical data and information about the labour market and job opportunities;

— Distribution of specialisations among public and private sector colleges in conformity with development needs;

— Rehabilitation of university graduates;

— Priority in employment for Jordanians as against foreigners in the labour market;

— Coordination with Arab countries to maximise the absorption of Jordanian labour force in Arab markets.

Institutional adjustment

strategies to increase economic and administrative efficiencies.

In this regard:

— The privatisation of certain public sector institutions in the form of gradual transformation of these institutions into companies owned entirely by the public sector, and then opened to public shareholding. There is now a standing committee presided over by the prime minister to study each individual case to make sure that such transformation is not directed towards interest groups and will not compromise on certain social services.

— Incentives for merges and amalgamations between companies, either similar in nature or complementary in production, with the objective of enlarging their institutional base, increasing their productive capacities, reducing administration costs, and increasing their efficiency of competition.

An overall administrative reform, and in particular a new institutional linkages of public sector departments. In this regard some independent institutions will be merged together under the umbrella of a ministry. An example of this is the Water Authority and the Jordan Valley which control water resources in the country and which considered for a merger into one water and irrigation ministry. Other activities will

be separated, such as preventive medicine and medical care where a separate entity will run and own the public sector, army, and university hospitals leaving preventive medicine, policy setting and monitoring to the Ministry of Health.



Dr. Fayez Tarawneh

— The institutionalisation of science and technology through the formation of the Higher Council for Science and Technology chaired by the Crown Prince.

The institutionalisation of information bases through a national information network.

The Formulation of the Economic Consultative Council combining both the key economic decision makers of the public sector, and the representatives of the major private sector institutions. Its primary objectives is to form a consultative body to advise the cabinet on major macro economic policies.

Regional planning strategy:

Although an economic recession will usually have its toll on all sectors and strata of the economy, the government realises that neither such an impact is equal in its severity, nor the capability of all sectors is equal in tolerating it. Accordingly, a number of adjustment policies were devised to address the problems of remote, less developed regions on the one hand and the less privileged on the other. Regional development planning became an integral part of national planning in the country to ensure the equitable distribution of income and development benefits among all regions of Jordan. And to curb the growth of poverty a national assistance fund was established. It is hoped that such a fund will help needy families set up small productive enterprises if possible, or else just provide them with monthly financial assistance to help them cope with the current stringent economic conditions.

Investment deepening policies:

Again, the Jordanian economy is, by definition, much closer to being a market oriented economy characterised by the existence of a sizeable and active private sec-

tor. There is a firm belief in the abilities of the Jordanian private sector to cope with and absorb, new systems and technologies. What the private sector needs in order to become the engine of growth is the proper environment and the appropriate system of incentives which would reinforce their growing concern and involvement in the social and economic issues of the country. And this is what investment deepening is all about. In addition to the adjustment processes in the labour market, and in the administrative and institutional arena, and in addition to the new trends in planning and the creation of investment and development zones in all regions that will tackle the distributional issue, the production side has taken top priority in the endeavours to create the strategies for development.

In this respect there has been major concentration on the commodity production side in both agriculture and industry which is supplemented by an emphasis on the completion of the national networks of infrastructure and the improvement of the quality of services in the Kingdom.

Large agricultural projects for wheat and red meat in the east-south lands have proven feasible and been privatised. And together with the organisation of the agriculture production through agricultural patterns, the organisation of the agriculture exports through the formation of a specialised company has been set in motion.

Restructuring and saving certain troubled companies to maximise the use of their idle capacity and enable them to live the rough years of international markets.

Promotion of exports through the adoption of an approach which encompasses several institutional measures such as the establishment of a trade-centre institution, standards and specification institution for quality control and joint trade committees with several countries. The government is also currently studying the establishment of an export insurance fund against non-commercial risks. In addition subsidies on consumption has been eliminated in favour of production subsidies, and particularly, export oriented subsidies.

Joint ventures with other Arab countries as a means of Arab economic integration have also been set.

With a topic like "adjustment policies in Jordan," no presentation can be complete neither in coverage nor in depth. The questions posed in this context are some of the most perplexing and challenging ones, and they definitely call for the profound, serious and responsible contribution of all concerned people from the various backgrounds and disciplines.

Critics voice dissatisfaction with Japanese democracy

By Elaine Kurtenbach
The Associated Press

TOKYO — As politicians this month pick a successor to Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, many Japanese feel their political system is failing to represent the will of most of the people. Yet most Japanese apparently remain unwilling to tinker with a political system that, whatever its other shortcomings, has brought national prosperity.

Japan's political system may have suited the nation's largely rural population 40 years ago, but some now question whether it still offers true democracy for a nation of urban, middle-class workers.

In a recent survey, more than half those questioned said the government doesn't really represent their interests.

Japan's parliamentary democracy gives the premiership to the president of the majority party in parliament, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party. The conservatives have governed Japan for all but nine months since the end of World War II.

About half of Japanese would like to see elections to choose a prime minister, according to a survey conducted by the Yomiuri newspaper in August. The poll showed just 23 per cent favouring

the present system of close-door "consultations" by Liberal Democratic Party leaders.

"The people are not involved. They are bystanders," said professor William Steele of International Christian University in Tokyo. "There is a confucian attitude ... which regards the masses as 'gummy,' or stupid people. The government is like parents who nurture the people," he said.

Government in Japan — a complex web of political and financial obligations between legislators and constituents, government ministries and business interests — was designed after the war to protect the small businesses, farmers and fishermen who then were in the majority, says Kenichi Ohmae, managing director of McKinsey and Co., a business consulting firm, in Tokyo and author of a dozen books on Japan.

"The majority of people today are urban salaried workers, and they are suffering from the high cost of living due to the special status granted to a (rural) minority. Even when people have leisure time, theatres, hotels and resort facilities are extremely expensive, and access to them is poor because of government regulations," Ohmae said.

He notes that while 80 per cent

of the Japanese live in cities, the balance of power in parliament is weighted strongly in favour of the rural constituents, whose votes carry far more sway than city dwellers.

The LDP, which relies on rural support, has treated farmers well — blocking rice imports and restricting imports of other foods.

As a result, prices are high for the majority now living in cities. Rice, the staple food, sells for \$44 for a 10-kilogramme sack in Tokyo, compared to \$3.99 for a 9-kilogramme bag in California.

Unequal representation in parliament, links between the construction industry and key ministries and some 10,000 outdated government regulations are cheating the Japanese people of their share of the nation's wealth, Ohmae says.

Yet reform is unlikely "because it would affect the fortunes of the incumbent legislators and also the balance of power among political parties," Junichi Kyogoku writes in his book, *The Political Dynamics of Japan*.

Companies and interest groups make political contributions which politicians accept with the clear obligation to represent their interests when making decisions.

Yet Ohmae says the silent majority remains "absolutely silent," and with few exceptions,

political activism in Japan is limited to local issues.

"There's not much concern on the people's part," Steele said. "They seem quite happy to be taken care of. As long as there's no major economic crisis, that probably won't change."

Fifty-four per cent of 7,739 people surveyed by the prime minister's office in May said they thought the people's views are not reflected in national policy. About one-third said they were.

Katsuhiko Shirakawa, an LDP representative from Niigata Prefecture, acknowledges that "candidates within the LDP do not represent the majority of many issues... But Japanese don't want anything to disturb the affluent lifestyle they worked so hard to achieve."

Yet some voices of criticism are rising, demanding that the new wealth be reflected in people's daily lifestyles. The three candidates vying to succeed Nakasone all vow to concentrate on reducing land prices for housing, increasing leisure time and improving living standards.

Many Japanese remain cynical or resigned.

"The only thing that matters in politics is money. Issues don't matter," said H. Oi, a computer operator. He said he votes in elections nevertheless.

Widespread protests continue in occupied territories

(Continued from page 1)

and predicted violence in the occupied territories would escalate.

"There is a greater radicalisation in tactics," Benjamin Ben Eliezer said on Israeli army radio.

"They show more daring, shoot at closer range. They choose their targets, attacking soldiers and men while leaving women and children alone."

Mr. Ben Eliezer warned the situation was likely to deteriorate further.

Observers have linked the renewed unrest to the upcoming visit of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, who is scheduled to arrive Friday to discuss peace

moves with Israeli leaders.

The Israeli defence minister, Yitzhak Rabin, was quoted on Wednesday as saying some of the violence might be "connected to attempts from abroad to create an atmosphere here of unrest in expectation of Shultz's visit."

Palestinian and international relief officials in the occupied territories disputed this interpretation, saying the demonstrations were spontaneous and sparked by local events.

In Washington, the U.S. State Department, condemning the latest bloodshed in the occupied territories, urged Tuesday that both Israel and the Palestinians refrain from violence.

"We are disturbed by the use

of lethal force which resulted in the tragic Oct. 12 shooting death of a Palestinian woman and wounding several others in Ramallah," department spokesman Charles Redman said, referring to firing by Israeli troops.

"At the same time, we condemn in the strongest terms the attack which left an Israeli civilian dead in Jerusalem over the weekend," he added to reporters.

"The deaths of seven Palestinians and an Israeli security officer in Gaza since the beginning of October are also part of the growing human toll," Redman continued.

"It is imperative," he said, "that both Israelis — who we realise are responsible for main-

taining order in the occupied territories — and Palestinians, exercise maximum restraint to end this new violence which cannot be justified on any grounds."

Redman said the recent outbreaks "demonstrate once again the need for progress towards peace and reconciliation in the region."

Mr. Shultz held a meeting on Tuesday at the State Department with Elias Freij, mayor of Bethlehem, who said later the two men discussed the peace process.

Mr. Freij told reporters many Arabs accepted the need to make peace with Israel and have come to understand there would never be a military solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

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The role of the mass media in national development

By Chen C. Chimutengwende

IT WAS the government of Ghana which in a statement in 1965 defined the role of the mass media in national development as one of "collective stimulator, educator and organiser of the people." It was also Frantz Fanon who, after studying Algerian development once stated that, "the people must know where they are going and why a specific course has been embarked on. The politician must realise that the future will remain dim as long as people's consciousness remains dim and incomplete."

The mass media have long been recognised in developing countries as essential auxiliary means of modern construction, social and cultural development. They are an important means of social control and the social process. Their ideological and socialisation functions are continuously being defined and perfected in developing countries as one of the indispensable factors in the mobilisation of the general population for programmes of national development. In the political process, the media are considered to be one of those sensitive and strategic sectors of society and this is why whenever there is a coup, after the presidential palace the next item to be captured are the mass media especially the broadcasting services.

Very often when people talk or write about "freedom of the press," they do not understand that the press does not operate outside the socio-economic system. It is part and parcel of the system. It is a social institution. It has to be owned and run by human beings who have ideas, attitudes, vested interests and connections of all kind with the rest of society and who are not above the law and other socio-economic pressures of society. As Ralph Miliband said, even in the so-called free or open societies of advanced capitalism, the mass media are only independent from direct state dictatorship and control, but not free from legal and other official restraints and pressures, nor from the ideology of the main centres of power. Their overwhelming bias is always towards the "bourgeois consensus" when it comes to fundamental issues in that society. It is freedom within the system and in promotion of the system which the advocates of free press stand for in practice.

Even in industrialised western countries, the ever-growing and immeasurable power of the mass media is a controversial subject. There is an age-old and unresolved debate about the power and role of the media. The United States Vice-President Mr. Spiro T. Agnew, on Nov. 13, 1969, referring to journalists said: "This little group of men who not only enjoy right of instant rebuttal to every presidential address, but, more importantly, wield a free hand in selecting, presenting and interpreting the great issues in our nation."

Mr. Agnew went on in the same speech to say that, "they (journalists) decided what 40 to 50 million Americans will learn of the day's events in the nation and the world. We cannot measure this power and influence by the traditional democratic standards, for these men can create national issues overnight. They can make or break by their coverage and commentary, a moratorium on the war."

"They can elevate men from obscurity to national prominence within a week. They can reward some politicians with national exposure and ignore others — the American people would rightly not tolerate this concentration of power in government. It is not fair and relevant to question its concentration in the hands of a tiny, enclosed fraternity of privileged men elected by no one and enjoying a monopoly sanctioned and licensed by government."

The current controversial international debate on the proposed "New World Information and Communication Order" did not just arise out of the need to extend political independence to all other sectors of the nation including information and communication. It did not arise merely as part of the campaign by developing countries for the democratisation of international relations. The debate arose primarily out of the realisation of the importance and potential role of the media and the need to create or restructure or develop communication systems relevant and capable of playing a maximum role in national development and the consolidation of national independence.

UNESCO and other international organisations and agencies are engaged in projects and programmes aimed at creating or strengthening the communication

systems of Africa and other parts of the developing world. This, they are doing in cooperation with the governments and national institutions concerned. The states which have a fuller understanding of the importance and power of the media try to make certain that the establishment of media infrastructure, the acquisition of appropriate and up-to-date communication technology, the provision of professional training and advanced studies, and research work are given a special place among the priorities of national development.

Precisely how the media perform their role and the problems they may face vary from one country to another and from one period to another, because of the differences in the nature of the social and economic systems. The other determining factors are the level and type of development, and the question of stability and instability of the social and economic system. The level of usage of the media as an instrument for national development is not uniform throughout different countries, nor is the rate and the nature of development the same. Nevertheless, there are certain functions the media can perform to aid national development which are accepted or applicable in various societies or circumstances.

In certain developing countries the mass media are state owned and/or controlled, while in others both state or private owned may exist side by side, or the media may be partially state owned. But even in the states where they are private owned, they are still required to support the national development programmes and in one way or another to act as instruments or agents of the state planned and guided social change. The media role or tasks may be assumed or included in the national plans irrespective of whether they are private or state owned or a combination of both.

In Africa and other parts of the Third World, communication policies are not usually well-defined. But what is clear is that the dominant mass media generally support the government and the national, political and development objectives as defined by the government. If they do not play that role, sooner or later that particular medium may be banned or set out to trouble.

They may not be censored, but because of the need for a "responsible media" which is a standard or role defined by the government, on some issues the

media have to practise self-censorship. This situation applies to all media whether private or state owned.

During the last two decades or so, the idea that "Third World" states must follow a government planned and guided development process has gained almost unquestionable acceptance. Most African states are supposed to have their national development proceeding to state plans. They all have them. They may be adjusted according to the availability of resources or sometimes abandoned due to problems of instability and lack of continuity.

The media may be covered or not covered in the development plans. But generally it is believed that African states need a speedy, hence planned development process which is meant to be the best way of not wasting scarce resources. Since development is in the final analysis about people, it depends on the mass mobilisation of the general population if it is to be speedy and successful.

Mass mobilisation of the population demands the maximum use of all the means of communication. The mass media, as information multipliers can have a particularly crucial role to play in the mobilisation of human resources for African development. Unlike in industrialised western countries, the mass media in Africa have to emphasise their educational and agitational role rather than entertainment.

Planned and guided national development is a conscious effort on the part of the government and the people.

The government must communicate with the people and vice-versa. People in one region must know quickly what people in another region are doing. Those involved in one development project must be put in a position to appreciate the relevance, nature and purposes of the other projects being undertaken nationally.

Those who advocate a western model of the communication system for developing countries are not able to give a convincing answer to the question of media relevance to development. Even those developing countries which originally attempted to adopt the basic western economic and political theories and strategies of socio-economic development process had to abandon many of the evolutionary principles, although they managed to remain

capitalist.

The necessity to abandon some of the western approaches has tremendous implication for the organisation, structure, control and role of the media and it equally affects the content and pace of communication training, education and research. Adhering to the western evolutionary approach with an unplanned economy guided by the principles of private enterprise would produce a different communication media whose main purpose is not to serve the development information needs of the country as generally understood in the Third World. In such a western society, the government does not directly get involved in the media. Unlike in Western countries where the media are a commercial business, in the Third World they should be seen as a service. Information needs of a developing country cannot sensibly and practically be left in the uncontrolled hands of private enterprise.

The attitudes and the ideas of the people have to be attuned to the planned socio-economic development, if that process is to be possible without the use of unnecessary coercion at high human cost. The media can be effective in campaigns aimed at improving health, education, agricultural techniques, encouraging the growth of participant political institutions, industrial production and expansion, focussing attention, widening horizons, feeding inter-personal channels, forming tastes, exposing corruption, attacking retrogressive and deviationist tendencies, and they can serve as an important national integrative agency.

People have to be motivated, informed, educated, persuaded and organised nationally for national development aimed at eliminating mass poverty, disease, ignorance and injustice. Modernising life patterns and changing irrational ideas and attitudes based on ignorance and many other practices not conducive to national development are educational tasks which can be effectively performed by the mass media as information multipliers in Africa. But such tasks are not profit making for the private sector. Their media would be for a different purpose and objective.

But for the media to be effective in their role, the development objectives must be clearly defined. They should be such that the general population, once it understands them, can be made to enthusiastically identify with them. The development objec-

tives must be clearly aimed at satisfying the aspirations of the majority of the people and thus improving their material conditions. The process by which such goals can be realised has to be fully understood by the people otherwise it may not be possible to mobilise them or to get them to be in the process of developing the nation through persuasive education and mass communication.

As the nation develops, so does the modern system of mass communication media. If a country is poor and undeveloped, this will be reflected in its media. The country may as a result not easily afford the necessary media infrastructure and appropriate communication technology which must be kept well-serviced and up-to-date. The state may also not be able to have enough and well-trained mass communication personnel at all levels. Communication infrastructure, appropriate and up-to-date media technology, and enough well-trained personnel are some of the major problems in Africa which affect the role of the mass media in national development.

The institutions for communication studies, research and training both at advanced university and post-secondary levels ought to be more well-financed than they are at the moment. This would ensure the production of competent and efficient communication personnel at both mid-career and senior levels. The institutions for university or senior level training ought to be run on a regional basis since most African states have media systems which are still too small to require exclusively national centres. Such national centres could easily be a waste of resources.

Another area which has been neglected is that of journals and other publications concerned with communication studies, research and training. They are an essential part of the communication system. The ones that exist are completely inadequate in number. It is in such publications that the great debate on mass media as information multipliers can be carried out to the benefit of our countries. Their other important role would be to encourage further research and provide relevant teaching materials for the media personnel. Their existence and development or our part of the new world information and communication order — Review of International Affairs, Belgrade.

Randa Habib's Corner

Old is beautiful

MOST of our beautiful old houses in Amman and other towns have already disappeared and were replaced by new stone or cement buildings. And this is a pity. Few still remain and we should do everything in our power to protect them.

First of all those houses should be listed by the government as "protected buildings" and their destruction or alteration should be forbidden. A special committee together with a trust fund should be created. The fund should be financed by the government and by concerned institutions and citizens who wish to help keep the old character of Amman alive. People who own old houses but need to sell their property should be given a subsidy in order to enable them to keep and restore those remaining architectural treasures.

Those houses could even be bought by the trust, which in return can either rent them to different organisations, or in the case of specially beautiful ones, turn them into museums.

Artisan shops and public libraries would fit perfectly in the old buildings. I am sure a careful study would come up with other similar projects.

Most important is that our old houses are preserved as they are witness to the creation and development of the city of Amman. Protecting them means protecting our own past.

A space garden project

By Nikolai Bulychev and Naum Samarov

MOSCOW (APN) — The duration of man's stay in orbit depends on the available reserves of oxygen aboard a spaceship. This life-giving gas is today brought from Earth in cylinders by cargo ships. Meanwhile, the reduction of oxygen from carbon dioxide exhaled by the crew could be a more efficient method of replenishment.

Konstantin Tsiolkovsky was the first to recommend space gardens as a source of oxygen. Such gardens could be planted in a spaceship bay. Plants would consume carbon dioxide and release the vital oxygen.

Soviet practical experience in this field shows that plant-growing in weightlessness is far from simple. Plants cannot tolerate the absence of gravity. Weightlessness not only makes watering a problem, but also causes soil conversion into dust and unnatural development of the root system. This brings us back to the concept of a rotating greenhouse with artificial gravity sustained by centrifugal force. Such a greenhouse is essential if we intend to carry on with our programme for space industrialisation which provides for longer space flights and bigger crews.

A greenhouse must be made to rotate in order to simulate Earth conditions which alone can make a plant bear fruit. Our experiments with space gardens show that as long as the fruit-bearing stage remains unattainable, the "agricultural" reproduction cycle will be all the harder to complete.

On the basis of what we have learned about flights in space we suggest that a garden be planted in a pressurised cylinder with ports ensuring the access of sunlight and walls lined with fertile soil. Centrifugal force generated inside the cylinder rotating at the calculated angular speed keeps the earth and moisture in it plastered to the walls.

The greenhouse will be thoroughly stabilised before the blast-off. Naturally, this balance is liable to be disturbed in flight owing to the growth of fruit, harvesting, and visits by cosmonauts. A special trimming system

has been provided to restabilise the vehicle.

An object is balanced when the centre of mass of a rotating body (the greenhouse cylinder in our case) is aligned with the axis of symmetry. Unless this condition is observed, the resulting centrifugal force will not only cause vibration, but will push the vehicle off the preset orbit. To prevent this, the vehicle should be equipped with a device that will keep the centre of mass aligned with the axis of symmetry. This objective could be achieved by several means, but the simplest and economically advisable method is to attach to the cylinder two butt-end trimming tanks, partially filled with water and arranged concentrically to the cylinder's axis of symmetry. The process of automatic alignment boils down to the following: If the centre of mass shifts (in the cosmic vacuum) the greenhouse will begin rotating relative to the axis passing through the displaced centre of mass, rather than the axis of symmetry, provoking the so-called play of a butt-end tank. As a result, water will rush to the "play" zone, i.e., the place remotest from the new axis of rotation. Its displacement will bring the centre of mass back to the axis of symmetry. The stabilising effect is achieved because the point of maximum play is always directly opposite to the point of centre-of-mass-displacement. This guarantees that the centre of mass of the greenhouse is kept automatically aligned with the axis of symmetry. Even the tapping of water from the tank for irrigation needs will not diminish the efficiency of stabilisation, because even a partially filled tank is an efficient equilibrator.

There is no doubt that the greenhouse project is technologically feasible even at this stage in practical cosmonautics. Its successful operation will be another proof of Tsiolkovsky's far-sightedness. The greenhouse with its Earth-simulated conditions could serve as a "relaxation room" for cosmonauts, thus promoting extended flights into space.

Japanese rice wine maker tries new product — kiwi fruit wine

By Graham Earnshaw

KUNISAKI, Japan — It's a rather unsuitable wine, slightly sour on the palate with a stronger-than-usual bouquet.

But then you wouldn't expect a Japanese wine made from kiwi fruit to have an ordinary taste. For Sumaji Kayashima and his company, one of southwest Japan's most famous makers of traditional sake rice wine, producing such an exotic and untested drink is a risk.

Farmers near the town in Kyushu island who are growing more and more kiwi fruit hope it will be a hit with wine connoisseurs in Tokyo and perhaps the world.

Kayashima, fourth generation owner of the Nishi-no-seki (western checkpoint) sake company, sat cross-legged in a wooden pavilion next to the old rice fermenting sheds and sipped tentatively at his new product.

"We're not sure yet how it will be received," he said. "Grape wine is not sold as widely in Japan as in some other countries. But I think the prospects are good."

The kiwi fruit, filled with sweet, black-speckled green succulence, emerged from obscurity in New Zealand several years ago to become a popular product in Japan.

Farmers in this corner of rural Japan used to grow mandarin oranges, but so did everyone else and the result was sagging sales.

Some changed in the late 1970s to the kiwi fruit, and Kayashima and his son, heir to the small family business, decided about five years ago to experiment with a wine based on the fruit.

Kayashima said he was aware of a sweet kiwi fruit liqueur in California, and several carbonated wines based on the fruit made in Australia and New Zealand.

But chateau Kayashima, as far as he knows, is the world's first attempt to produce a table wine from kiwi fruit.

"We have been doing tests for about five years now and we've tried many types of fermentation, looking for the best combination," he said.

"This year we are producing 9,000 bottles, but sales have been

slow so far," he added.

The wine has a darkish hue reminiscent of a sauternes, and a taste which is a trifle too fruity for some.

The consensus of experienced drinkers at an impromptu tasting was that there were grape wines which would suffer by comparison.

Alcohol content is about on a par with grape wines.

For the adventurous wine buff, the Japanese kiwi fruit brew could present a whole new realm to explore — and pontificate about.

Is it a wine to lay down? Will it improve with age? Will the 1987 vintage, the first, be viewed as a good year? Which end of the orchard produces kiwi fruit likely to result in wine of superior quality?

Jain revives ancient death ritual in India

By Dilip Ganguly

The Associated Press

SONEPAT, India — An 82-year-old man is slowly starving to death here, carrying out an ancient Jain religious rite and transforming this Indian town into a place of pilgrimage.

About 2,000 devotees come each day from across India to witness former businessman Badri Prasad's journey to death, inside a Jain temple on a busy downtown street.

On a wooden board in the second floor of the temple lies Prasad, who stopped eating Aug. 5 to attain *santhara*, the voluntary embrace of death.

Visitors are ushered in for a brief look at the frail old man wrapped in a white cloth. Attendees sponge his body and whisper to him about what is happening.

"This rite is of very great importance," the temple's 29-year-old chief spokesman Sunder

Muni said. "It is a wonderful event."

Anticipating Prasad's death, his followers have made arrangements for his cremation in this town of 150,000 people known chiefly for its bicycle industry, which is 61 kilometres west of New Delhi.

"It will be a real show. This will be the first time after four decades that we will have someone carrying out the ancient ritual," said Nand Kishore Jain, the chief funeral organiser.

The only instance of a Jain saint "transcending death" in modern India took place in 1948 when a man died after 10 days of fasting in a Punjab village.

Prasad belongs to the Jain faith, whose origins are blurred in Indian history. Scriptures, however, show that it dates back at least to the 6th century B.C.

The religion, which has 3.7 million followers, is considered by many to be an offshoot of Hinduism, India's dominant reli-

gion. Jainism lays particular stress on the concept of *ahimsa*, harmlessness and non-violence.

So great is their concern for harmlessness, that Jain priests wear white masks to avoid inhaling any living creature and carry small brooms to sweep insects from their path.

Prasad already has become a "living god" for some Indians. He led a worldly life for his first 40 years, running a cloth business in New Delhi. It was in 1945 that he adopted the mask and the broom of the Jain faith.

During the visit, he was heard to murmur, "I am inviting death ... I am playing with it. I want to leave this world and get *moksha* — salvation."

Prasad has lived only on 400 grammes of boiled water a day for the past 64 days, spokesman Muni said.

He has lost 25 kilograms and now weighs 30 kilograms. "He is a skeleton, but a living one," said Dr. B.C. Bansal.

Now you can smell like your favourite soap opera

By Peter Elsworth

DALLAS — The Texas man has a new smell and it has more to do with soap operas than tobacco, leather and sweat.

"Dallas" cologne for men, is a "herbal, woody, mossy blend" packaged in a blue box complete with a picture of the Ewing oil building from the television series.

"As dynamic and take-charge as a Texas power dealer and just as smooth," runs the advertisement, "as rugged and individual as a wildcatter. Dallas the new men's cologne that plays to win."

The fragrance is being marketed by Colonia, the U.S. subsidiary of 4711, a classic lavender cologne, under a licensing agreement with Lorimar-Teletitles, the owners of the "Dallas" show.

Colonia plans to spend \$5 million to promote the cologne, with television commercials using the show's opening footage and music. It will be marketed

through mass volume retailers. Positioned against "Chaps" and "Stetson," the new cologne represents "The Dallas of today, the modern Western image of power deals and great wealth," Colonia President Lawrence Pesin told Reuters.

He said depending on how the fragrance fared this autumn, the company was planning to market it abroad.

The recent launch included a celebrity-laden party at the Cadillac Bar in Dallas and an "oil baron's ball" hosted by actor Patrick Duffy, who plays Bobby Ewing, brother to Larry Hagman's villainous J.R.

Leigh Taylor-Young, who plays Kimberly Cryder, J.R.'s new girlfriend this season, said she had not yet smelled the cologne, but she hoped J.R. would wear it.

However Pesin said the company had deliberately kept J.R. in the background. "What we're selling is the concept of Dallas," he said. "Bring him in and we might as well call it J.R."

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CRICKET

Indians beat Kiwis

BANGALORE, India (R) — Champions India recovered from a disastrous start to collect their first points of the World Cup cricket tournament with an exciting 16-run win over New Zealand here on Wednesday.

India's outlook when they were 21 for three in the 10th over was grim. But a marvellous innings of 75 from 71 balls by the country's new batting star, Navjot Singh Sidhu, and a late flourish from Kapil Dev, who made 72 not out, lifted them to 252 for seven from their 50 overs.

In reply New Zealand, deprived of the services of John Wright, a 'flu victim, were unable to accelerate after a steady start and with their batsmen being picked off by the Indian spinners, finished on 236 for eight.

The win was badly needed by the Indians who started their title defence with a one-run defeat by Australia in Madras last Friday, a result which provoked local criticism both of their attitude and their ability.

The result also raised the question of the wisdom of putting the opposition in after winning the toss. New Zealand captain Jeff

Crowe followed this trend here but only once, when England beat West Indies, has the move worked. On the sixth other occasions the team put in has won.

To start with, though, Crowe's decision looked perfectly sound as India lost Sunil Gavaskar in the sixth over and Krishna Srikanth in the eighth, both the openers falling to run out.

Gavaskar went first, setting off from the bowler's end for a single in which his partner showed no interest. Then, with the score moved on to 16, Srikanth was a little unlucky when he just failed to beat Ken Rutherford's direct hit from mid-wicket.

Dilip Vengsarkar was third out at 21, seeming to change his mind about a drive and chipping a simple catch back to Willie Watson, and it was now down to Sidhu and Mohammed Azharuddin, at 23 and 24 the young men of the side, to save India.

McEnroe considers suspension meaningless

LOS ANGELES (R) — John McEnroe, still less than halfway through a two month suspension, has slammed the ban as "meaningless" and is laughing all the way to the bank.

McEnroe was suspended and fined \$17,500 on Sept. 28 by the Men's International Professional Tennis Council (MIPTC) after punctuating his U.S. Open match against Yugoslav Slobodan Zivonovic with verbal attacks on the umpire and a television technician.

The ban, which applies only to Grand Prix tournaments, will keep McEnroe out of only two events he was scheduled to enter — San Francisco last week and Paris next month.

And after his second exhibition triumph in successive days on Monday, the American said: "This is meaningless. Do you think it really bothers me I'm not playing?"

"I don't lose a whole lot of sleep over not playing in San Francisco and Paris. I'm not going to sit here and tell you this is the worst thing that ever happened to me."

Taiwan leads bridge tourney

OCHO, RIOS, Jamaica (AP) — Taiwan zoomed into the lead after six matches of the Bermuda Bowl world contract bridge team championship round-robin Tuesday.

The teams that finish first and second in the 14-match round-robin will join the United States and Sweden in the semifinals, which start Monday.

Taiwan trounced Britain, 24-6, while the other three teams in contention were involved in close matches. The victory gave Taiwan 111 victory points, 9.5 more than runner-up Canada. Venezuela has 101 and Pakistan has 100.

Pakistan edged Brazil, 16-14, in the sixth match while Venezuela and Canada fought to a 15-15 tie.

European soccer preview

Crucial night in qualifying competition

By Andrew Warshaw
The Associated Press

LONDON — The battle for places in next summer's European Championship soccer finals in West Germany reaches a crucial stage Wednesday night, with many of the seven qualifying groups still finely balanced.

Nine matches are strung across the continent as the final phase begins in a long qualifying competition that started two years ago and ends in December.

Defending champion France, last year's World Cup semifinalist, already is eliminated after a dismal qualifying tournament, along with Hungary. Other teams with a strong soccer tradition in danger of missing out on the finals include Denmark, Belgium and Poland, all of whom played in last year's World Cup in Mexico.

Spain, beaten finalist in the 1984 European Championship, will be hard to catch if it beats Austria in a group one match in Seville.

The Spaniards are level with Romania on six points at the head of the group but play their last two matches at home, whereas Romania travels both times.

Ricardo Gallego, Spain's influential midfielder from Real Madrid, is injured but coach Miguel Munoz reported an otherwise fit squad.

With only one team from each qualifying group going to Germany, the Austrians, two points behind Spain and Romania, must win in Seville to stand any chance. Austria faces Romania in the last game of the group on Nov. 18.

Munoz said the visitors would "fight to the bitter end. I'm worried because they are playing to qualify," he said.

Sweden's shock home defeat by Portugal last month installed perennial powerhouse Italy as the favorite to go through from group two, which is without a game on Wednesday. In the next game, on Saturday, the Italians travel to Switzerland, knowing that victory would put them level on points with Sweden, with a game in hand.

Group three is the only one

virtually decided, following France's unexpectedly quick elimination. The Soviet Union, four points clear at the top, is now almost untouchable.

Wednesday's game in Paris between France and Norway has been rendered meaningless and the visitors intend to use the occasion to try out some new faces. France will also have a new-look side, following Patrick Battiston's decision to follow Michel Platini, Alain Giresse, Dominique Rocheteau and Jean Tigana into international retirement.

Group four, a straight race between England and Yugoslavia, sees a double-header with both contenders playing at home, needing and expecting nothing less than victory.

In a group that could well be decided on goal difference, the English unbeaten after four matches, are hoping for plenty of goals at Wembley against underdog Turkey, the only nation of the 32 who entered the qualifying tournament not to have scored a single goal.

England manager Bobby Robson bemoaned the fact that he will not be able to see the team play in next summer's finals. "We don't want to slip up and it will be a lot if the crowd comes along to support us," Robson said.

"We hope the fans will see the importance of the occasion. We have to win to qualify."

Robson made one predicted but nevertheless controversial move, axing Glenn Hoddle from midfield and replacing him with Nottingham Forest's Neil Webb.

Hoddle, one of the country's

most gifted players, has been out of the limelight since moving to Monaco at the start of this season. Despite the player's assurances that he is playing as well as ever, Robson has decided to relegate the former Tottenham Hotspur man to the substitutes bench.

"Webb will give us a bit of everything. He is very industrious and can score as well," said Robson, who also brings back the Everton pair, Gary Stevens and Trevor Steven, in place of the injured Viv Anderson and Chris Waddle.

Yugoslavia, three points behind England but having played one game less, entertain Northern Ireland in Belgrade without six injured players including Milan Jankovic of Real Madrid and ace midfielder Dragan Stokovic of Red Star Belgrade.

"We should and must win this game regardless of the missing players," said Yugoslav coach Ivica Osim.

Unless the Irish can produce one of their spirited away performances and grab at least a point, the group four showdown is expected to come on Nov. 11 when Yugoslavia hosts England.

Group five also stages a double-header with Greece, the surprise group leader, travelling to meet Hungary and Poland taking on The Netherlands.

While Hungary cannot no longer be the injury-hit Poles will have to contend with Rudd Gullit and Marco Van Basten, the two Italian-based Dutch stars who return to international duty to boost their side's hopes.

Greece has nine points from six games going into Wednesday's series of matches, followed by

The Netherlands, with eight from five.

Group six sees unfashionable Wales needing a maximum two points from its remaining two away games to eliminate favoured Denmark and Czechoslovakia and reach the finals of a major championships for the first time since 1958.

A draw in Copenhagen on Wednesday would virtually take Wales through, eliminating the Danes. Wales could then afford to lose by two goals in Prague next month and still make the

finals. But Wales' small squad has been robbed of one of its key players at the most crucial time in the qualifying competition, goalkeeper Neville Southall.

Southall, one of the world's finest keepers who plays for English League champion Everton, has a back injury and the job of trying to keep out the dangerous Danish forwards now falls either to Eddie Niedzwiecki who has made just one international appearance, or Tony Norman, who has only three caps.

SQUASH

England topples Australia

AUCKLAND, New Zealand (R) — England, spurred by a significant win from Lisa Opie, retained the women's world team squash championship when they beat Australia 2-1 in the final on Wednesday.

English number one Opie put her country on course for success when she beat Australia's former world champion Vicki Cardwell 9-3, 9-3, 6-9, 9-5 in a match regarded as the key to the whole contest.

Robyn Friday defeated Martine Le Moignan 9-5, 5-9, 9-0, 6-9, 9-5 to square the rubber but, in the decisive third match, Lucy Soutter beat Sarah Fitzgerald 9-6, 9-3, 9-4 to clinch England's triumph.

Opie's victorious contribution was also satisfying for personal reasons: "I wanted to win the team title to wipe out the memories of being dropped for the semifinals and final of the 1985 team championship," she said.

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FIRST RACE 3.30 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1400 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Farhan Fahd Oudih	Elbazle	Owner	A. Amarah	56
2- Daly Basheer Sbaei	A. Elcawahir	Owner	A. Amarah	54.5
3- Thami Haza El Hadeed	Banoun	Owner	A. Jabir	54.5
4- Mamdouh Mohammad Khalil	Jalbat	Owner	Yousel	54.5
5- Salim A. El Kareem	M. Alkhid	Owner	Mwatak	53
6- Aly Mahmoud Masamh	I. Azab	Owner	Owner	50
7- Ahmad A. El Azeez Marley	Sinan	Owner	Owner	50
8- Tayseer Rahal	Rafael	Owner	Kasim	48.5
9- Nawal Maltouh El Faiez	A. Majdy	Owner	Ahmad	48.5
10- Majdy Dawesh El Bakheet	M. Salim	Owner	George	48.5
11- Salim Hisham Nabouly	Idhaa	Owner	Owner	48.5
12- Naeef Elad A. Jnaib	S. Mirkid	Owner	Mahmoud	48.5
13- Mirkid Dawesh El Bakheet	S. Mirkid	Owner	Mahmoud	48.5

THIRD RACE 4.30 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 2000 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Nimir El Hmoud	Safred	Mahmoud	Kasim	56
2- Nimir El Hmoud	Sahary	Mahmoud	A. Jageel	51.5
3- Nimir El Hmoud	Shadeed	Mahmoud	A. Jageel	50
4- Nimir El Hmoud	Lobah	Mahmoud	Sufman	48.5
5- Mamdouh El Hadeed	Hibah	Owner	Ahmad	51.5
6- Abdullah Dawoud	Kanawy	Owner	Thamin	50
7- Sarah Aly Fawad Saad	Dahman	Khaireldin	Yousef	50
8- Ibrahim Hany Beharat	Hamam	Khaireldin		50
9- Noal Aly Fawad Saad	H El Khair	Khaireldin	Rasheed	50
10- Aly Fawad El Saad	Saad Aly	Khaireldin	A. Jabir	50

FIFTH RACE 5.30 FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 1600 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Misha El Faiez	Elakhal	Nimh	Eldaham	60
2- Misha El Faiez	Elazif	Nimh	Yousef	58
3- Misha El Faiez	A. Eltaeb	Nimh	Yousef	58
4- Khalil Haddadin	A. Elzaman	Owner	A. Jabir	56
5- Khalil Haddadin	Diwan	Owner	Owner	56
6- Khalil Haddadin	H. Maen	Owner	Owner	56
7- Faisal Awwad El Faiez	Khalid	Owner	54.5	
8- Kamal Wasil Beharat	H. El Romman	Khairidin	Rasheed	52
9- Raja Wasil Beharat	Wardan	Khairidin	50	
10- Maysam Ibrahim Beharat	Naamah	Khairidin	50	
11- Faisal Awwad El Faiez	Nasrin	Owner	George	50.5

THE Daily Crossword by Sidney L. Robbins

ACROSS
1 Top filers
5 Possesses
8 Horse poetry collection
12 Con game
15 Sassy
16 Meat
17 Expensive
18 Coastal flyer
19 Lab spinner
20 Fennel herb
21 Soaks flax
22 Urge
23 Soliwoog
24 Russ. letters
27 Overflow
31 Vestigial feather
34 Spring festival
37 Deteriorated
41 Recollections
42 Start
43 Make believe
46 Notable period in history
47 — Ruth
49 Seraglio
52 Switch
53 Store events
59 Can. prov.
60 Sharpen
61 Jeweled headpiece
62 Energy source
63 ebr.
64 Diving blinds
65 Permit
66 Carefree adventure
67 Backtalk

DOWN
1 Dear
2 Remedy
3 Chemical compound
4 Overcharge
5 Leander's love
6 Cartoonist
7 Let it stand
8 Fir
9 Hold back
10 "Inferno" name
11 Oh, wool
12 Fragrance
13 Hidden
20 Court
23 Expenses
24 Melancholy
25 Sweet
26 Stratagem
28 Taut
29 Opposite
30 Site-beat Sp.
32 Soot pigment
33 Worship
35 Thorny bush
36 Lignit
38 Complete
39 Buchwald
40 Train stop
41 abbr.
44 Observes
45 Presidential monogram
46 Hilarious
47 Abuse of politics
48 Do tailoring
50 Charles' dog
51 Leaves port
52 Chin. money
53 Question word
54 Eleventh
55 Blackish
56 Singing syllables
57 Cupid
58 Carpenters' tools

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS
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Syria, N. Yemen and Tunisia to get \$90m loans

KUWAIT (OPECNA) — The Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD) is to extend about \$90 million in loans to three Arab countries. Syria will receive \$62.2 million in two loans to finance an irrigation project in the Al Ghab and Al-Ashameh plains (\$53.3 million) and for the expansion of a power generating station (\$8.8 million).

The loans bring total fund assistance to Syria over \$300 million. North Yemen will receive \$22.3 million to improve transport services in the capital city of Sanaa. This will bring the country's total indebtedness to the

fund to \$281.5 million.

The fourth credit of \$4.6 million is to go to Tunisia to improve its fishery industry. With this loan, total fund assistance to the North African country comes to \$241.9 million.

All loans carry annual interest rates ranging between four and

six per cent, and are repayable in 17 to 18 years, including grace periods of up to five years.

Fund Chairman Abdul Latif Al Hammad signed the credits.

AFESD was established in 1973 with a capital of \$2.8 billion contributed by all Arab countries.

Oil group to consider price rise

JAKARTA (R) — OPEC will consider raising its \$18 reference price to compensate for the fall in the U.S. dollar, Indonesian Energy Minister Subroto said on Wednesday.

He told reporters Iran had suggested a price rise and this would be considered at the December meeting of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in Vienna. "In fact it is not a price increase, but just an adjustment of the oil price due to the 'depreciation of the dollar,'" he said.

"The \$18 reference price which was decided last December has decreased in value because of the depreciation," the minister added.

Dr. Subroto said the price issue would be discussed in full at the meeting scheduled for Dec. 9.

Iranian Oil Minister Gholamreza Aghazadeh said on Monday he had discussed Iran's demand that OPEC raise its reference price by \$2 a barrel to offset the decline in the U.S. currency.

He was quoted by Tehran Radio as saying the issue was raised with Dr. Subroto and the other two members of a special OPEC committee which toured the Gulf to seek compliance with production quotas.

Asked if Indonesia supported the increase, Dr. Subroto said: "For Indonesia of course, as a nation which needs dollars for development, if there is an increase in price we would be very happy."

Dr. Subroto said leaders of the Gulf countries had supported the OPEC quota committee's initiative to ensure the 13 members of the group stick to their production quotas to stabilise prices.

He said the organisation would also consider ways of monitoring output more closely.

OPEC President Rikwan Lukman of Nigeria said in Kuwait last week both Saudi Arabia and Kuwait had agreed to consider on-site inspection of production levels.

Colombo to spend \$2.8b next year

COLOMBO (R) — The Sri Lankan cabinet approved on Wednesday an appropriation bill for 1988 for government spending \$3.8 billion rupees (\$2.8 billion), a statement said. Expenditure for calendar 1987 had been estimated at 72 billion rupees (\$2.4 billion). The cabinet statement said the bill was approved subject to minor adjustments to be made by Finance Minister Ronnie De Mel after his return from Washington. Recurring expenditure is estimated at 39.7 billion rupees (\$1.3 billion) and capital expenditure at 44 billion rupees (\$1.5 billion). Revenue is estimated at 47.3 billion rupees (\$1.6 billion). A sum of 36.4 billion rupees (\$1.2 billion) will be financed from loans, foreign aid and other sources, the statement said.

Director of FAO criticises protectionism, export subsidies

ROME (R) — U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) chief, Mr. Edouard Saouma, on Wednesday attacked protectionism and export subsidies, saying they were a major obstacle to feeding the world's poor.

In a statement to Reuters marking Friday's World Food Day, Mr. Saouma said in the last 25 years an extra 1.8 billion people had been fed, there had been a sustained improvement in food supplies and chronic shortages in much of the world had been averted.

But he said parts of Africa remained a "tragic exception," while a number of serious problems were unresolved despite international awareness that feeding the hungry was a common responsibility.

"Trade in agricultural commodities remains in a state of profound crisis. Agriculture has been deeply scarred by protectionist measures and export subsidies on a scale not seen for over

half a century," Mr. Saouma said in the written statement.

He added agricultural resources and the environment were still not adequately protected from degradation and pollution and the global food system remained highly polarised — a reference to the accumulation of surpluses in developed countries while chronic shortages continue in the Third World.

FAO predicts a severe crop failure in Ethiopia, particularly in the north and east of the country, by the end of this year despite rains during August.

The organisation is appealing for immediate relief for Ethiopia and says there could be a need for more than 950,000 tonnes of food aid.

Latest information from the organisation also shows that there is a poor outlook for harvests in several Asian countries.

In Bangladesh, recent flooding has aggravated already serious problems and FAO experts say there will be an urgent need for food aid in coming months. Drought is expected to cause substantial crop losses in India, Kampuchea, Laos, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam.

The organisation is also predicting that world cereal output in 1987 will be down to 1,782 million tonnes, four per cent less than 1986 and below global consumption for the first time in four years.

FAO's seventh World Food Day on Friday is dedicated to millions of small Third World farmers, regarded by the organisation as the key to boosting food production in most developing countries.

FAO estimates that up to 800 million people live in absolute poverty in the Third World.

U.S. trade gap narrows to \$15.68b

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. trade deficit narrowed to \$15.68 billion in August from a record \$16.47 billion in July, the Commerce Department said on Wednesday.

The improvement in the measure of U.S. trade performance worldwide was more than had been expected by market analysts, who had predicted the deficit would drop to about \$14.5 billion.

But the improvement is expected to give federal policymakers some breathing space in their efforts to deal with the trade problem, which has persisted despite concerted government efforts to remedy it.

The Commerce Department said a sharp drop in oil imports was a key factor in the August trade deficit decline.

The increase in U.S. petroleum imports slowed to just 0.1 per cent in August following a 13.2 per cent rise in July.

The minor improvement in the overall August trade figure takes the trade problem a month closer to the 1988 presidential elections, where it is certain to be a major issue.

Coming when Congress is drafting a trade bill, it also is likely to bolster the case of those lawmakers seeking strong protectionist measures that are opposed by President Reagan.

U.S. officials have repeatedly declared victory in their struggle to reverse the gaping U.S. imbalance with its trading partners, only to find it growing — or progress slowing — once again the following month.

The lingering uncertainty over the future direction of the trade deficit was underlined on Monday when Japan announced that its trade surplus with the United States had grown in September despite a decline in Japan's overall trade surplus for the month, compared to year-earlier figures.

Japan said its surplus with the United States last month edged up to \$4.86 billion from \$4.80 billion in September 1986 and from 3.73 billion in August.

The widening of Japan's surplus with the United States came despite a narrowing of its overall trade surplus with all of its trading partners including the United States, to \$7.43 billion from \$8.95 billion during the same year-earlier month.

Economists and federal officials generally agree that Japan's worldwide trade surplus is shrinking but are puzzled because there has been little reflection of that trend in the balance with the U.S., its most important trading partner.

In the United States, officials have pointed out that a trend of improvement in the physical volume of U.S. exports and imports has been masked by the fact that the Commerce Department's monthly trade reports are based on the dollar value of goods rather than their physical volume.

The dollar's recent decline in world exchange markets relative to other key world currencies has inflated the value of imports, giving the impression that progress in curbing those imports is lagging, the officials have noted.

In August, the department said, the value of imports fell by 4.2 per cent from July levels, to \$35.91 billion from \$37.48 billion, while the value of exports fell 3.7 per cent to \$20.22 billion from \$21.01 billion in July.

The deficit in manufactured goods fell to \$13.28 billion from \$14.47 billion in July, the Commerce Department said.

Agricultural commodity trade posted a \$411.0 million surplus in August, down from a \$535.8 million surplus in July, it said.

Computer giant records 12.2% profit rise

NEW YORK (R) — International Business Machines Corp. (IBM) said on Tuesday its third-quarter net income rose 12.2 per cent to \$1.21 billion ending a string of five quarterly profit declines.

But the figures from the world's biggest computer-maker disappointed some industry analysts who had hoped for a more spectacular increase and IBM's stock fell \$3 to \$146.50 in heavy trading.

On a per-share basis, earnings increased 13.6 per cent to \$2 from \$1.76 a year ago. The larger increase reflects IBM's stock buyback programme.

Most industry analysts had been expecting the giant computer firm to rebound in the second half of this year and record its first year-to-year gain since the first quarter of 1986. But the per-share net for the third quarter fell a few cents short of Wall Street's consensus of \$2.03 — some estimates had reached as high as \$2.20.

"The earnings were not too spectacular. People ran the stock up yesterday looking for better earnings," said a trader at Shearson Lehman Brothers.

Analysts also said IBM's bottom line was bolstered by non-operating items such as a lower tax rate, the lower value of the U.S. dollar and sale of shares in Intel Corp. These boosted net income by a total of about \$165 million.

Company Chairman John Akers said in a statement: "IBM's efforts to become more competitive are taking hold. We continue to make steady progress in achieving the objectives we have set for ourselves."

Sales for the third quarter rose 6.9 per cent to \$12.73 billion, with IBM reporting higher sales and shipments for the third quarter.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following were the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One Sterling	1.6445/55	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3046/51	Canadian dollar
	1.8220/27	West German marks
	2.0497/07	Dutch guilders
	1.5120/30	Swiss francs
	37.87/90	Belgian francs
	6.0690/715	French francs
	1314/1315	Italian lira
	144.05/15	Japanese yen
	6.3900/50	Swedish crowns
	6.6550/6600	Norwegian crowns
	6.9850/9900	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	459.35/459.85	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — London share prices dropped quite sharply in late trading after an early fall on Wall Street, where prices were hit by news of a larger than expected U.S. trade deficit for August of \$15.68 billion, dealers said.

The figure compared with a record \$16.47 billion gap in July and market forecasts of around \$14.5 billion and prompted a 25-point fall in the Dow Jones industrial average within the first few minutes of trading.

The U.K. market had opened mixed on Wall Street's rise on Tuesday, but soon tended easier in thin and nervous trading. At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 was 24.6 points off at 2,325.6. Equities eased against the background of a weak government bond market, where longer dated issues were marked down around 3/4 point in the wake of the trade data after holding relatively steady throughout the morning, gilt dealers said.

U.K. economic data Wednesday showed a 0.8 per cent rise in August industrial output and a 0.5 per cent rise in manufacturing output. Although this was better than expected it had little impact on shares or gilts.

Reuters led the way down with a 48p drop to 788 on worries that recent cutbacks by Salomon Inc and other U.S. investment houses could reduce demand for its products, dealers said.

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You live to your superiors today. You will have a considerable amount of SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) resourcesfulness until shortly after you can rely on your intuition this noon. Later, however, you would be missing, but later on it may be wise to make no hasty decisions or flawed, so stick to conventional do anything which might upset methods which are reliable.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Follow the wishes of your family this morning, you'll have and create more harmony at home, a satisfied feeling all day. Try to this is a good time to work on how avoid any arguments today.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) This morning is a good time to take back his ideas, you'll get more of correspondence and other cooperation in the future. Be sure communications, whether for to do your share of the work.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) This is a good time to take back his ideas, you'll get more of correspondence and other cooperation in the future. Be sure communications, whether for to do your share of the work.

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Gemini (May 21 to June 21) An you can reach points of agreement opportunity to make more money in with others quickly right now, so the future will present itself. Try to impress your ideas on as tonight is a good time to work on many people as possible.

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Libra (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Make some plans for your social which requires a lot of contact with the, but don't go out tonight, stay the public.

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FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1987
From the Carroll Ringer Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: off. Drive carefully today. This day may be tough with you. SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Be and avoid making costly handling any financial matters. Be mistakes. You would be wise to use alert to any property repairs which only those processes which have can't wait any longer.

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Fokker seeks more cash

AMSTERDAM (R) — Dutch aircraft maker Fokker, embarrassed by expensive delays in launching two new airliners, said on Tuesday it is seeking more money from the Netherlands government and banks.

In a statement, N.V. Koninklijke Nederlandse Vliegtuigenfabriek Fokker said talks were well advanced and that it expected to make an announcement soon. It would not say how much money it sought.

The Amsterdam Stock Exchange had halted trading in Fokker shares in response to press reports of chaos on production lines and deepening financial troubles.

Changes in specifications for its new F-30 turboprop and F-100 turbofan-powered aircraft had led to expensive delays, Fokker said.

The first of the aircraft were due to be delivered early this year. Fokker has paid airlines an undisclosed sum to compensate for the delays, which Fokker officials ascribed to problems with assembly lines, suppliers and air

Broker forecasts world copper surplus in 1988

LONDON (R) — The world copper market is heading for a supply surplus next year after four years of shortfalls, but prices still look set to edge up next year, a leading metal broker said on Wednesday.

Higher copper production would cause an increase in world stocks, but inventories would remain historically low, said U.S. broker Shearson Lehman Brothers in its annual review of the world copper industry issued in London.

Refined copper stocks in non-socialist countries were seen rising by 330,000 tonnes in 1988 and by 550,000 tonnes in 1989, after falling 90,000 tonnes this year and by 344,000 tonnes in 1986.

On prices prospects, Shearson forecast an average price for 1988 of 73 cents a pound (450 grammes) and 68 cents for 1989. It forecast an average price for the fourth quarter of 1987 of 78.5 cents and for the whole year of 71 cents.

The average price in 1986 was 61.6 cents and the current price is around 85.50 cents.

Major oil trader stops sales to South Africa

LONDON (R) — International oil trader Transworld Oil Ltd. said on Tuesday it has stopped supplying oil to South Africa.

But, with a glut on world oil markets forcing traders and companies to search for new markets and clients, such moves are unlikely to have immediate impact on South African supplies, oil experts say.

In a statement released in London, Bermuda-based Transworld said: "The company's decision to withdraw from the business is based upon an assessment of the economic, social and political environment."

Casualties mount in battle for rebel-controlled Jaffna

COLOMBO (R) — Tamil rebels have killed 57 Indian soldiers including a colonel and wounded 176 in the battle for the guerrilla stronghold of Jaffna and other clashes, Sri Lankan state radio reported on Wednesday.

It said 280 guerrillas had been killed.

A Sri Lankan military spokesman said the main force of Indian troops reached the outskirts of Jaffna on Wednesday after five days of fierce fighting and was poised to capture the town.

Security forces were put on alert in Colombo in case of retaliation by guerrillas of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), a police spokesman said.

The Indian troops, backed by tanks and armoured personnel carriers, were reported re-grouping for a final assault on the town, which could come at any moment.

Paratroopers dropped on the university campus were reported already fighting inside the town itself.

The military spokesman said details were sketchy but there appeared to be a relative drop in

the level of fighting in the last few hours.

He likened this to "the calm before the storm."

He said the rebels were armed with mortars, machineguns, rocket-propelled grenades and landmines.

Indian troops launched the offensive on Saturday after the Tigers killed more than 200 Sinhalese in a new wave of communal clashes.

On the eastern front, state radio said, rebels attacked an Indian military camp near Batticaloa Airport on Tuesday night but were repulsed.

India, with a large Tamil population of its own, sent troops to enforce a July 29 peace pact aimed at ending a four-year conflict between Tamil separatists and majority Sinhalese.

No independent confirmation of the casualty figures, disputed by the rebels, was available. All

journalists were barred from going to Jaffna.

In Colombo a police spokesman said: "We anticipate trouble from terrorists and have stepped up security." He declined to give further details.

Military analysts said the Indian High Command might find it difficult to support their forces in Jaffna with armour because of the town's narrow streets and side lanes.

Jaffna was an independent Tamil kingdom until the Portuguese took it in 1619. The Dutch captured the city in 1658 after a three-month siege but surrendered it to the British in 1796.

Travellers from Jaffna told reporters they saw two bridges destroyed by the LTTE on Tuesday between Karainagar and Ponnalai and near Kakativu, to delay the advance of Indian forces.

They said they counted 28 Indian bodies sprawled by the university compound.

The Indian navy has sunk four boats suspected of gun-running in the narrow Palk Strait between India and Sri Lanka after they refused to stop, Indian Defence Ministry sources said.

7 injured in Manila hotel blast

MANILA (Agencies) — A powerful bomb wrecked part of an international hotel in Manila on Wednesday, injuring seven people, as the Philippines' top defence official said martial law could be enacted at any time.

The bomb tore apart a side entrance to the Manila Garden Hotel in the city's business district at about 12:30 p.m. in what police called "a well-planned attack."

Police said seven people received minor injuries.

No one had claimed responsibility for the blast but police and government officials suggested the Communist New People's Army (NPA) may have planted the bomb in a significant departure from its normal "no terrorism" policy.

"Within the next 24 hours we should have a real suspect," Armed Forces spokesman Col. Oscar Florendo told reporters.

Defence Secretary Rafael Iletto told provincial civic and military leaders on Tuesday that martial law was ready to be imposed in the Philippines whenever President Corason Aquino wants.

"It is in our selves... the plan. When the time comes... we will just pick the plan from the shelf and say this is the plan Mrs. President," Mr. Iletto said.

Mrs. Aquino, who has made the restoration of democracy a major goal, said on Monday there was no need for emergency rule but for the first time stopped short of rejecting it outright.

Under the new constitution, a declaration of martial law by Mrs. Aquino must be backed by congress within 48 hours.

Armed Forces Chief General Fidel Ramos, in a related move, shifted operational control over the military from Manila to regional centres to give the military a free hand against the rebels.

Mrs. Aquino said Wednesday the government was ready for any new coup attempt and was open to renewed talks with Communist rebels after they hinted they were prepared to resume contacts.

Door closed on Tibet

PEKING (R) — China announced on Wednesday that foreigners were barred from visiting Tibet, where anti-Chinese rioting broke out this month, unless they had special permission or were part of organised tour groups.

"Tibet will not receive tourists or visitors for the time being except for those with permission and tourist groups with signed contracts," a Foreign Ministry spokeswoman told reporters. She declined further comment.

In Lhasa, a senior Tibetan government official urged individual foreign tourists already there to leave the region.

"We are emphasising that foreign visitors are welcome but because of the special situation we are strongly advising (individual) foreign tourists to leave," Yu Wuzhen, head of the Regional Foreign Affairs Office, said by telephone.

"They will be welcome later," Mr. Yu added. He declined to say when.

One tourist just back from Lhasa, where the economy is becoming more and more dependent on tourism, said hotels were emptying of foreigners.

Mr. Yu, who last week told Western reporters at a midnight meeting to get out of Tibet within 48 hours, said the situation in Lhasa was "getting better." Reporters have since been refused permission to return.

Until their expulsion and Wednesday's ban, journalists and other visitors were free to visit Lhasa without seeking permission or joining organised groups.

Anti-Chinese rioting exploded in Lhasa on Oct. 1 after police arrested monks staging a pro-independence demonstration around the Jokhang Temple, the centre of Tibetan Buddhism.

Six people died, according to the official death toll but Tibetan sources say to 19 were killed, some shot dead by police. The Chinese authorities deny eyewitness accounts that the security forces opened fire.

Tibetan nationalists said last week several hundred people had been arrested, many in night raids, and they feared a total military crackdown once most foreign witnesses had left Lhasa.

"Individual travellers are leaving Lhasa gradually after finishing their sight-seeing," Mr. Yu said.

Taiwan party approves visit to mainland China

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — The ruling Nationalist Party on Wednesday approved lifting a 38-year-old ban on travel by Taiwan citizens to Communist China to allow reunions of families separated since the Chinese civil war.

The Nationalist's Central Standing Committee reached the decision at a meeting presided over by President Chiang Ching-kuo, the party chairman, the party said in a news release.

Taiwan citizens, with the exception of military personnel and civil servants, will be allowed to visit relatives on the Chinese mainland, the party said, adding that further details will be worked out by the executive Yuan, or cabinet.

The announcement said the new policy was reached because of "humanitarian concerns" and will not change the Nationalist's anti-Communist policy and determination to recover the mainland.

But the change is widely viewed as a major shift in the policy of no contact with mainland China. The policy was first enforced by the late Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, the presi-

dent's father, in 1949 when his Nationalists fled to Taiwan after losing a civil war to the Communists.

"The president apparently wants to break the stalemate himself and thus make it easier for the next generation to approach (China) for a possible reunification," said Peng Hui-en, publisher of the monthly Fengyung (Fame) magazine.

The cornerstone of the Nationalist, or Kuomintang, policy toward China has been the famous "three nos" — no contact, no negotiations and no compromise.

But many of the 2 million supporters who fled with the Nationalist government to Taiwan are aging and want to see friends and relatives left behind on the mainland before they die.

Several private groups composed primarily of native Taiwanese, who constitute the overwhelming majority of Taiwan's population of 19.5 million, also have called for lifting the travel ban to mainland China, where they trace their ancestral and cultural roots.

Reagan does not expect speech to save Bork

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan planned one more speech on Wednesday in support of his attempt to appoint Judge Robert Bork to the U.S. supreme court, but his usual optimism in political battles was missing.

Mr. Reagan asked the major U.S. television networks if he could interrupt their "soap operas" for a few minutes to talk about his nomination of the conservative judge to the supreme court.

But the networks were reluctant to agree to the president's request for a 3:15 p.m. EDT (1915 GMT) slot which could hit daytime dramas regularly drawing millions of viewers.

By early Wednesday, none of the three major networks had decided to carry the speech live. The Cable News Network said it

would broadcast it.

Mr. Bork was battered in two weeks of hearings before the Senate Judiciary Committee, which voted 9-5 against recommending the full Senate to accept the nomination.

Mr. Bork, in a dramatic appearance at the White House late last week, admitted he had little chance but refused to withdraw, demanding a vote by the full Senate.

The Senate was still arguing about a date for the vote, but 54 of its 100 members had already publicly declared they would vote against Mr. Bork's nomination to America's highest tribunal.

Mr. Reagan himself acknowledged he was fighting a lost cause.

On Tuesday, he showed his bitterness in an ad-libbed answer

to a woman in a Republican audience in Whippany, New Jersey, who shouted "we want Bork."

"So do I," Mr. Reagan responded. "Bork is staying on and we know the odds are against getting enough people to turn around their vote."

His voice rising, he added: "What's at issue here is not one man and what happened to him. What's at issue is that we make sure that the process of appointing a confirming judges never again gets turned into such a political joke."

Mr. Reagan pledged if he had to find a replacement for Mr. Bork, who was nominated to succeed retired moderate Justice Lewis Powell, "I'll try to find one that they'll object to just as much as they did to this one."

Five killed, 1 injured in Washington state shooting

PASCO, Washington (R) — Five men were killed and one wounded on Tuesday night when two gunmen entered a car body shop and opened fire, police said.

Police chief Don Francis said six employees were working at the shop when two men entered, went back out to their car, and "came back in with weapons and started shooting."

He said police did not know what prompted the shooting in this small central Washington

town about 400 kilometres south east of Seattle.

Francis said the wounded employee had hidden under a car and "after the assailants had left he came out and got into his own automobile and drove to the police station."

The injured man was taken to a local hospital with minor injuries. Two men were arrested near the scene of the shooting but were later released after police questioning.

U.S. labour secretary to quit

WASHINGTON (AP) — Labour Secretary William E. Brock plans to resign Thursday to become chairman of Sen. Bob Dole's campaign for the Republican presidential nomination, Republican sources have said.

Sources who asked not to be identified said Mr. Brock would step down Thursday. The labour department said it could not confirm the report.

"I can't give you any confirmation in it," David Demarest, an assistant labour secretary, said late Tuesday.

However, other sources close to Mr. Brock confirmed that he would step down, but declined to give a timetable.

One source, speaking on condition of anonymity, confirmed that Mr. Brock would announce his resignation "soon," but would likely remain in the job "into November."

Mr. Brock, a former congressman and senator from Tennessee, and chairman of the Republican National Committee from 1977 to 1981, would bring a reputation as a strong political organizer to

Sen. Dole's campaign, which runs second behind Vice President George Bush's in early polls among Republicans.

Sen. Dole, the Senate Republican leader, is expected to announce his candidacy officially on Nov. 9.

The labour secretary has, in personal conversations, expressed interest in heading the state, defense or treasury department if Republicans retain control of the White House in the 1988 election.

The Senate voted 54 to 41 on Tuesday to confirm industrialist C. William Verity Jr. as U.S. secretary of commerce.

Mr. Verity, 70, retired chairman of Arco Inc., the nation's no. 5 steelmaker, succeeds Malcolm Baldrige, who was killed in July in a rodeo accident.

Mr. Verity has sparked conservative criticism by pushing for more U.S. trade with the Soviet Union. He has at times expressed impatience with use of trade levers to promote emigration of Soviet Jews and other human rights concerns.

Australian court agrees to hear Spycatcher appeal

CANBERRA (R) — Australia's highest court agreed on Wednesday to hear Britain's case against Spycatcher but refused to impose a ban on the publication of the book.

The high court of Australia granted Britain special leave to appeal against a New South Wales court decision allowing publication of the memoirs of former secret service agent Peter Wright.

Chief Justice Sir Anthony Mason, heading the five-member court, said the British appeal would be heard next year.

He rejected Britain's plea for a ban on the book's sales until the appeal hearing. The book was released in Australia following the New South Wales judgment on Sept. 29.

A British embassy spokesman said the hearing before the high

court would help uphold the principle that former agents are under a lifelong obligation to maintain confidentiality.

Wright, 72, a former officer in the British counter-espionage agency MI5, has been fighting a legal battle for more than two years to publish Spycatcher in Australia.

His publishers, Heinemann, released 70,000 copies of the book on Wednesday. Almost all were sold within a few hours, a spokesman for the company said.

Lawyer Theo Simos, representing the British government, told the High Court Britain would also seek a court order to seize all profits from Spycatcher.

The court ordered the British government to make a written submission before Dec. 15 and Wright before Feb. 15. The appeal date is to be set later.

Over 9,000 U.S., Soviet planes could carry nuclear bombs

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States and Soviet Union now have more than 9,000 military aircraft in their arsenals capable of carrying nuclear bombs, of which only about 500 are counted for arms control purposes, two private researchers say.

"The figures show just how deeply nuclear weapons are integrated into U.S. and Soviet forces," said William Arkin, an analyst with the Institute for Policy Studies, a liberal Washington think-tank.

"Wherever they go, whatever mission they might be involved in, nuclear weapons are available for these aircraft," he said.

Mr. Arkin and Robert S. Norris, a researcher with the Natural Resources Defence Council, a New York-based environmental group, conducted the survey of nuclear-capable aircraft for the November issue of the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists.

The researchers concluded the United States now has 4,834 aircraft that are capable of carrying nuclear bombs, compared with 4,202 for the Soviet Union. The U.S. count includes several hundred airplanes that actually are flown by America's NATO allies in Europe but which could be armed with U.S.-controlled nuclear bombs.

The two men on Tuesday emphasised that because of a plane is capable technically of delivering a nuclear bomb does not mean "it has been assigned a nuclear mission."

"We're not suggesting either side would use this number of aircraft to carry nuclear weapons in a war," Mr. Arkin said.

"But the totals are larger than we expected and should be kept in mind because arms control efforts as they exist today encourage the development of more nuclear bombs" by focusing on reductions in missile warheads, he added.

The United States and Soviet Union have counted only their long-range strategic bombers in fashioning arms accords. By that measure, only about 374 American warplanes and 165 Soviet planes currently "count" as strategic nuclear aircraft, according to the study.

In addition to those long-range strategic bombers, however, both countries have thousands of medium- and shorter-range fighter and attack jets, patrol aircraft and even some helicopters that have been wired to carry and drop a nuclear bomb, the researchers found.

On the U.S. side, such planes range from the Navy's F-18 Hornet, A-6E Intruder and P-3 Orion to the air force's F-16 Fighting Falcon and some older F-4 Phantom. On the Soviet side, they include such planes as the MiG-27 Flogger, the SU-26 Fencer and the TU-26 Backfire, the study found.

"In over four decades, the United States has had 43 kinds of aircraft capable of delivering nuclear weapons," states a brief summary of the findings.

Fifteen of these are currently deployed. ... the current U.S. nuclear bomb stockpile of six types is estimated to be 7,350, supplemented by 2,825 air-launched missiles."

The Pentagon had no comment on the findings Tuesday.

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Ettenson

MIGHTY WORDS
By Hank Harrington

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|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Played a flute | 1 Parent | 1 Promontory | 1 Plutonium |
| 2 Bathy dwellers | 2 Here | 2 Tremble | 2 Venetian |
| 3 On marketplace | 3 Without authority | 3 Questioned | 3 Works hard |
| 4 Scour | 4 Before | 4 Indecent | 4 Salads |
| 5 Worship | 5 Indecent | 5 Questioned | 5 Salads |
| 6 Newspaper | 6 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 7 Notice | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 8 Shore birds | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 9 British author | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 10 Highly energetic | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 11 With | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 12 "Cakes and —" | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 13 Grammar no-no | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 14 Outlets | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 15 Tax form word | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 16 Claves | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 17 Biblical | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 18 Feline sound | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 19 Household member | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 20 Nothing | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 21 Assent without proof | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 22 Once again | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 23 Traction man | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 24 Starts a new | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 25 Spread to dry | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 26 Slander | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 27 Oriental nurse | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 28 Come forth | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 29 Reluctant to | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 30 Stuck on a | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 31 Dear selection | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 32 Phil. term | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 33 Post in bill | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 34 Haran rooms | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 35 Related on | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 36 Sub-lease | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 37 Star's side | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 38 Last resort | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 39 Draining | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 40 Rare diving | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 41 Scores | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 42 Hawaiian goose | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 43 Musical type | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 44 Tech affirmative | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 45 Casually | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 46 Scental s.p. | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 47 Gantry or Fudd | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 48 G. letter | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 49 G. letter | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 50 G. letter | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
| 51 G. letter | 7 Blessings | 6 Questioned | 6 Salads |
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